



PATROL NEWS

July/August 2006

Celebrating Tradition Embracing Change



COVER DETAILS ON PAGE 3.

From The Staff ...

Major Richard L. Coffey Technical Services Bureau



If you are a trooper with less than nine years of experience, you won't recall what a few still refer to as the "good old days". That was a time when your options for completing reports consisted of a pencil, pen, or typewriter in the zone office. You had to be very confident to use a pen, in case corrections were needed! Once completed and checked, all of the zone's reports would then be periodically relayed to troop headquarters. It was in the fall 1997 that we began rolling out the first stand-alone zone office PCs. Sergeant Allan Heseman, Q/RDD, had written the initial request for them in 1996 pursuant to a Troopers Council meeting suggestion, and he and Lee Steinkuehler, Q/ISD, traveled the state providing training on the new devices. These PCs had very limited capabilities, as there were no network connections to enable things such as electronic reports or e-mail.

That was not all that long ago. Quite honestly, we have made tremendous progress in our use of computer technology since then, especially over the last five years. In March 2001, we acquired 18 mobile computing devices (MCDs) and began a pilot test of them that summer. In late 2001, we were able to purchase an additional 150 MCDs through a grant. Now, all full-time road cars are equipped with an MCD. These devices allow officers to complete a number of reports electronically, to perform registration and driver license checks (including photos), to receive calls for service, to have individual e-mail, and, when enabled, to even receive a verbal warning as a result of a wanted person or stolen vehicle inquiry.

GPS capabilities have been added to our Patrol cars, which allows radio personnel to visually monitor each car's location to enhance officer safety or to assist in situations, such as pursuits. Zone office PCs have been upgraded to provide network connectivity, as well as an exchange point for replicating data from the MCDs. The paperless electronic accident reporting process has been completed and is currently in the process of being deployed statewide.

Work continues on the investigative reporting process that will not only fully automate that report, but also automatically provide crime reporting statistical information to our repository and the FBI. We are in the process of acquiring bar code scanners for the MCDs that can eventually scan license information directly into forms in the MCD. We have begun the evaluation of solutions to automate our citation process to electronically capture and transmit violator information directly to the appropriate prosecutor and court. By year-end, we should have installed all necessary equipment to enable wireless connection between an MCD and the zone office PC for downloading and information exchange purposes. We are also near a final selection of a new in-car digital video system. This system will be integrated with the MCD for video playback and storage purposes.

This project list is not all-inclusive, but it does give an idea of the progress we have made in a very short time (and this work pertains only to our road officers—it doesn't include the computer technology efforts for other divisions and entities). Expanding our use of technology will always be difficult due to our size and geographic diversity. However, we will continue to examine opportunities to not only improve upon our current technology capabilities, but also to provide new tools to enable our officers to perform their jobs as efficiently and effectively as possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Coffey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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PATROL NEWS

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PATROL NEWS

July/August 2006

"75 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"

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On July 3, 2006, the Patrol recognized John "Buck" O'Neil with a certificate of appreciation. The ceremony took place at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, MO, into which O'Neil was inducted recently.

Cover

Troop D SERT participated in the World SWAT Challenge, Little Rock, AR, in March 2006. Here, Tpr. Shane R. Monk coaches a team member, who drags a dummy during the competition.

TROOP D SERT ACCEPTS CHALLENGE

By Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

Troop D SERT (Special Emergency Response Team) accepted an invitation to the Original SWAT World Challenge (OSWC) for 2006. The Patrol's SERT earned their invitation based on their legacy of excellence and their reputation as one of the top tactical teams in the nation.

"For over 20 years, the Patrol's Special Emergency Response Teams have responded to high risk situations throughout the state," said Colonel Roger D. Stottlemire, superintendent of the Patrol. "The officers who serve on these teams are highly trained, exceptionally skilled individuals. It is an honor to receive an invitation to the Original SWAT World Challenge."

The Original SWAT World Challenge was established to provide a single, annual world-level conference for law enforcement solely focused on the needs of the SWAT community. The symposium took place on March 27 at the Convention Center in Little Rock, AR. The topics for 2006 included legal use of lethal force, tactical medicine, active shooter, and vehicle assaults and takedowns. On March 28-29, the vendor exhibition took place. The competition part of the Original SWAT World Challenge was held March 29-30, at Camp Robinson, just outside Little Rock. The OSWC is an invitation only World Championship competition designed to challenge the fitness, motivation, tactical, and weapons skills of the



Troop D SERT waits for the signal to start the zodiac competition.

Trooper Walter L. Burr starts to leap to the low wall obstacle during the three gun challenge, following Tpr. Jeffrey D. Fugett (right) who has already cleared it.



world's top SWAT teams. The 2006 competition consisted of 24 invited teams competing for the title "Best of the Best". This year, the field included teams from Canada, Germany, Jordan, and Taiwan, as well as the United States.

Although their competitors took the honors, the Troop D SERT gained valuable experience and contacts within the SWAT community. Congratulations to the following officers who were involved in the 2006 Original SWAT World Challenge: Cpl. Bradley S. Bearden, Cpl. Cort A. Stuart, Cpl. J. Todd Vermillion, Tpr. Walter L. Burr, Tpr. Jeffrey D. Fugett, Tpr. Shane R. Monk, Tpr. Michael D. Adams, Tpr. Brandon D. Helms, Tpr. Brian P. O'Sullivan, and Lt. Robert H. Rothrock.



Troop D SERT had a picture taken with new friends—the Taiwan team.

Troop A Names Flinn, Donahoo Honorary Troopers

Men Pulled Victims From Burning Vehicle

By Sgt. Dan Green, Troop A

On July 13, 2006, Lieutenant Brian T. Deshler presented "Honorary Trooper" certificates to Mr. Martin Flinn and Mr. Mark A. Donahoo for their lifesaving efforts at an accident scene on Interstate 29 north of Platte City on August 13, 2005. Mr. Flinn and Mr. Donahoo were nominated for the "Honorary Trooper" award by Corporal Thomas G. Sims.

On August 13, 2005, Cpl. Sims investigated a two-car injury accident in which the driver of a southbound vehicle lost control on the wet pavement. The vehicle crossed the median and struck a northbound vehicle nearly head-on and then caught fire. Mr. Flinn, an off-duty Northland Regional Ambulance District paramedic, and Mr. Donahoo drove up on the accident shortly after it happened. Mr. Flinn, Mr. Donahoo, and two unidentified individuals cut the occupants from their seat belts and removed them from the burning vehicle before it became fully engulfed.

In his request that Mr. Flinn and Mr. Donahoo be recognized by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Cpl. Sims wrote that both occupants of the burning vehicle would have perished in the vehicle that morning if it were not for the quick actions and unselfish acts of bravery displayed by Mr. Flinn, Mr. Donahoo, and the two unidentified individuals.



Lt. Brian T. Deshler, Troop A, congratulates Mr. Mark A. Donahoo while handing him an Honorary Trooper certificate.



Lt. Brian T. Deshler, Troop A, presents an Honorary Trooper certificate to Mr. Martin Flinn.

Moberly Optimist Honors Tpr. Mattingly

By Sgt. Brian N. Anderson, Troop B

On May 16, 2006, the Moberly Optimist Club held its annual law enforcement recognition night at Nelly's Restaurant in Moberly. Among those honored was Trooper Jason M. Mattingly, Troop B, Zone 11. Each year, the Optimist Club recognizes one member from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Moberly Police Department, the Randolph County Sheriff's Department, and the Moberly Correctional Facility for their outstanding work efforts. Tpr. Mattingly was nominated for the award due to his outstanding work ethic and attitude.

Director of Adult Institutions with the Missouri Department of Corrections Terry W. Moore and Randolph County Associate Circuit Judge Scott Hayes delivered speeches at the awards ceremony. Director Moore and Judge Hayes expressed their appreciation for law enforcement officials and extended a word of gratitude for the sacrifices they make on a daily basis.

The awards ceremony was held in conjunction with the Optimist Club's 29th annual "Respect for Law Week". Optimist members David Haley and Dennis Cupp presented the awards.



Pictured holding his award is Tpr. Jason M. Mattingly, right, who is accompanied by his wife, Cathy.

INVESTIGATORS TRAVEL THE GLOBE

By Sgt. Rex M. Scism, Q/GD

The Missouri State Highway Patrol Gaming Division is comprised of over 100 members who oversee and enforce state laws and regulations related to Missouri's gaming industry. While much of the division's responsibilities are carried out within individual casino properties, it also consists of three background investigation units located in St. Louis, Kansas City, and Jefferson City. There are 11 MSHP investigators assigned to these units, and one of their primary responsibilities involves conducting complex background investigations on casino companies, casino supplier companies, and associated key persons who apply for gaming licenses in Missouri.

Investigators are routinely required to travel extensively in order to conduct these background investigations on behalf of the Missouri Gaming Commission. Due to the proliferation of gaming throughout the world, gaming companies are located on virtually every continent. While officers typically travel within the continental United States, many commitments require overseas travel in order to adequately investigate the many foreign companies that are involved with Missouri's gaming industry. Within the past several months, officers from all three investigative units have traveled overseas in order to conduct various investigations and follow-up on relevant leads.

The St. Louis office is comprised of three members; Sergeants Steven R. Akridge and David A. Leitman, and Corporal James A. Bennett. Sgt. Leitman recently traveled to both Argentina and France in order to conduct investigations related to both a supplier and casino company located in those countries. The Kansas City office is comprised also of three members: Sergeants Jeffrey L. Smith and Gary D. Davidson, and Corporal Greg M. Prussman. Sgt. Davidson traveled to Europe, visiting England and France, while conducting investigations related to individual casino company key persons. The Gaming Division's Jefferson City office contains five investigators: Sergeants George W. Hamilton, Edward J. Aylward, Philip W. Morrison, Mark S. Knox, and



This photo shows the entrance to a marketplace and Buddhist temple in Tokyo, Japan.

Notre-Dame (cathedral) dominates the Seine and the Ile-de-la-Cité as well as the history of Paris. It took roughly 180 years to complete.



myself. Many officers from this team have experienced foreign travel as well. In 2001, Sgt. Hamilton had occasion to travel "down under" to the Australian continent. In May 2006, myself and Sgt. Morrison visited Japan while conducting investigations related to one of that country's largest corporations, Konami.

As you can imagine, there are a myriad of things to consider when traveling internationally. Our officers depend largely on foreign contacts in order to gain assistance with logistical preparations, on-site visits, and scheduling meetings with various law enforcement agencies. Many locations have a U.S. Embassy or Consulate, which are staffed with individuals who deal with American visitors on a regular basis. In instances where this is not the case, it is critical to establish contacts with host nation governmental entities that are

willing and able to assist Patrol members on special assignment.

Due to the nature of our mission, we deal with local law enforcement jurisdictions throughout the United States and abroad. U.S. policing functions are comparable in nature and require a minimal amount of cooperation and planning in order to obtain background information or intelligence on key persons or corporate entities, which fall under the purview of our investigation. Obtaining information from foreign law enforcement agencies is not as easy. During Sgt. Leitman's trip to Argentina, he was able to work with a local FBI office in Buenos Aires in order to garner information and intelligence related to the companies he was investigating. Sgt. Davidson experienced a great deal of cooperation working with

Continued on the next page.

—Globe

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both the London Metropolitan Police Department and the United States Embassy. He found their officers were all excited to be working with Missouri troopers. When Sgt. Morrison and myself traveled to Japan, we were able to establish professional relationships with both the FBI and Japan National Police. Their assistance was a very important aspect of our trip. Interestingly enough, the Missouri Department of Economic Development has an office in Tokyo, complete with a helpful staff of Missouri state employees who were more than eager to assist us with many details.

Cooperation with host nation law enforcement agencies is only one element of foreign travel. It is also important to do relevant homework on the country being visited and to ensure that our customs do not interfere with, or contradict, local customs. European cultures are very similar to our own. However, in Japan, we found that simple hand gestures, which we take for

granted here in the U.S., could be interpreted in negative ways. It was important for us to be aware of basic Japanese protocol related to their customs and courtesies, so we did not offend the very individuals we were trying to garner information from. Another obvious foreign travel consideration relates to the language barrier most of our officers experience while making contacts in other countries. While English is the second language for many countries throughout the world, a great deal of our contacts occurs with non-English speaking individuals. Sgt. Morrison and myself contracted the services of an interpreter to assist with our communication process, and that preparation certainly provided large dividends during our investigation.

No foreign trip would be complete without a total immersion in the local culture. Fortunately, there is typically time for a few photographs and meals consisting of the local cuisine. Sgts. Leitman and Davidson sampled European delights, while Sgt. Morrison and myself took in a bit of Far East cuisine. We had occasion to visit a small, local

Japanese tempura establishment and were greeted by a friendly staff that delivered interesting deep fried foods on a stick. While I strongly recommend the tempura shrimp, the potato with fish egg was not a big hit with my pallet! Our troopers also take time to recognize, and often reward, the efforts of those who assist us during our investigations. The 75th Anniversary coins, mugs, and other assorted Highway Patrol memorabilia were a big hit in each country, and of course a friendly police patch exchange is always in order, regardless of where the world's cops are on duty!

Having been in police work for nearly two decades, I feel blessed to have gained the experiences this career has brought me. I remember a large motivating factor for my application with the Patrol being related to the opportunity to always do something different. In other words, if I become bored with one job or function within the organization, there is always another avenue to pursue. That being said, when I was a recruit in the Academy I would have never guessed I would be traveling the globe in support of one of our many Highway Patrol functions!

Patrol Honors Mr. David Bryan

By Sgt. Daniel W. Green, Troop A

Captain Vincent J. Ellis, commanding officer of Troop A, presented a life-saving citation on Friday, June 16, 2006, to Mr. David Bryan. This citation recognizes his distinguished actions on May 22, 2003.

Mr. Bryan and another motorist of the Kansas City, MO, area were traveling on Interstate 70 at the 47-mile marker in Lafayette County when they witnessed the crash that took the life of Trooper Michael L. Newton. Both men immediately stopped their vehicles to lend assistance.

Working together, these two men — who had not met prior to the crash — attempted to remove both Trooper Newton and Mr. Michael J. Nolte from the patrol vehicle. Unfortunately, they were not successful in removing Trooper Newton, and he died in the

Mr. David Bryan, left, and Mr. Michael J. Nolte, right, take a moment to remember Tpr. Michael L. Newton, whose picture can be seen behind them on Troop A's Ultimate Sacrifice wall.



crash. Mr. Bryan and the other motorist were successful in removing Mr. Nolte from the passenger side window and taking him to a safe area.

They extinguished his burning clothing and stayed with him until emergency personnel arrived. Mr.

Bryan put himself in danger to assist people he did not know. The Patrol honors the bravery and compassion he showed in a dangerous situation. His actions are a credit to himself, his family, and the community in which he lives.

PROMOTIONS



Jeffrey N. Vitale
Lieutenant
Troop E



Mark A. Bielawski
Sergeant
Q/GD



Noel C. Davenport
Sergeant
Q/GD



Troy D. Linneman
Sergeant
Q/DDCC



Jeffery M. Owen
Sergeant
Q/DDCC



Chris L. Patton
Sergeant
Troop C



Collin M. Stosberg
Sergeant
Troop A



Cort A. Stuart
Sergeant
Troop D



Bruce A. Becker
Corporal
Q/GD



Darron F. Blankenship
Corporal
Q/DDCC



Jon E. Eidson
Corporal
Q/DDCC



Jason C. Flanigan
Corporal
Troop A



Gara N. Howard
Corporal
Q/GD



Lonnie J. Keathley
Corporal
Troop C



Shane R. Monk
Corporal
Troop D

PROMOTIONS



Michael A. Petlansky
Corporal
Troop C



Mark B. Richardson
Corporal
Troop H



James E. Thuss
Corporal
Troop A



Casey O. Tubbs
Corporal
Troop A



Justin K. Parks
Radio Personnel
Troop B



Bryan W. Wolford
Radio Personnel
Troop F



Michael S. Zvolanek
Radio Personnel
Troop B



Kenneth Barent
CVO II
Troop D



Nicholas J. Borgmeyer
Fingerprint Tech. II
Q/CRID



Sean C. Brooks
Criminalist II
Q/CLD



Deborah J. Burton
Chief DE
Troop E



Jeremy M. Calfee
DE II
Troop H



Eric D. Cornman
CVO II
Troop C



Tumica L. Cosey-O'Hara
DE Sprv.
Troop C



Carl W. (Skip) Daniels
Plant Maint. Eng. Sprv.
Q/CMD

PROMOTIONS



Charles E. Dreppard
DE II
Troop C



James P. Eberhardt
CVO II
Troop A



Randy E. Fain
CVO II
Troop C



Sean D. Fairchild
DE II
Troop F



Connie E. Farrow
CIA II
Q/DDCC



Melanie R. Fitzpatrick
DE II
Troop F



Clinton R. Flynn
CVO II
Troop A



Lana D. Germann
Clerk Typist III
Troop F



Jason L. Gregory
CVO II
Troop G



Herbert W. Guilliams
CVO II
Troop A



Gregory N. Hall
CVO II
Troop A



Donna S. Henman
DE II
Troop H



Barbara A. Henson
DE II
Troop C



Valiere J. Hill
DE II
Troop C



Matthew C. Hodges
CVO II
Troop E

PROMOTIONS



Beth A. Holtmeyer
CIA II
Q/DDCC



Coby G. Holzschuh
CVO II
Troop F



Michelle L. Hoskins
Data Entry Oper. II
Q/TFD



David L. Johnson
Comp. Oper. I
Q/ISD



Tyler J. Jones
AFIS Entry Oper. II
Q/CRID



Kenneth D. Kemp
CVO II
Troop C



Diana Klug
AFIS II
Q/CRID



Karen A. Kolieboi
DE II
Troop C



Wendy L. Kost
CIA II
Q/DDCC



Jeffry S. Leathers
CVO II
Troop I



Tracy L. Lehmen
CIA I
Q/DDCC



Trevor L. Libbert
Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II
Q/CMD



Terry W. McCameron
CVO Sprv. II
Troop C



Dennis W. McCormick
CVO II
Troop E



Terry L. Mears
Info. Analyst II
Q/DDCC

PROMOTIONS



Robert L. Morgan
CVO II
Troop D



Russell P. Norton
CVO II
Troop C



Carol A. Otto
Crim. Hist. Spec. II
Q/CRID



Gail J. Paceley
CIA II
Q/DDCC



Rebecca A. Ragan
Chief DE
Troop I



Stacy R. Russom
MVII
Troop E



Julianne Samel
Clerk Typist III
Troop B



Johnna L. Schanzmeyer
AFIS Entry Oper. III
Q/CRID



Karyn E. Shepherd
DE II
Troop B



Jamie L. Snodgrass
Criminalist II
Q/CLD



Ted E. Wilkins
CVO II
Troop D



Lela A. Wood
Radio Personnel
Troop F

Anniversaries

Note: The following employees are marking a notable anniversary of service with the agency.

August

30 Years

DE Sprv. Peggy P. Cope, Troop C

20 Years

Sgt. Daniel P. Banasik, Q/DDCC

Cpl. Jimmy A. Beckett, Troop D

Tpr. John L. Bishop, Troop D

Sgt. Richard E. Buttram, Troop F

Sgt. David A. Callaway, Troop D

Sgt. William D Choate, Troop C

Sgt. Leslie C. Crowe, Troop D

Lt. Kathy A. Frazier, Q/TND

Lt. Richard G. Fredendall, Q/RDD

Data Entry Oper. III Debra L.

Freeman, Q/TD

DE Sprv. Dena R Geist, Troop F

Sgt. George W. Hamilton, Q/GD

Sgt. Cameron M. Heath, Troop E

Cpl. Daniel W. Hinten, Troop G

Chief MVI Thomas W. Hollis Jr.,

Troop D

Capt. Jackie B. Johnson, Q/AS

Sgt. Keith A. Jones, Troop G

Sgt. Dale E. Knox, Troop A

Sgt. Mark S. Knox, Q/GD

Sgt. David L. Merrill, Q/DDCC

Sgt. Gregory G. Morgan, Troop E

Sgt. Kurt E. Mueller, Q/DDCC

Sgt. Shelby L. Pirtle, Troop E

Cpl. Thomas R. Propst, Troop F

Cpl. Gary W. Riggs, Troop D

Cpl. Norman E. Rodenberg,

Troop A

Sgt. Thomas R. Rohn, Troop B

Sgt. Glenn J. Rousset, Troop C

Lab. Recs. & Evidnce. Cntl. Clerk III

Brenda P. Ryan, Q/CLD

Sgt. Timothy R. Tinnin, Troop F

Lt. Luke Vislay, Q/DDCC

Cpl. Jeff S. Wagoner, Troop E

Sgt. Reginald M. Walker, Troop E

Sgt. Jerry C. West, Q/TND

Cpl. Roger S. Williams, Q/GD

Sgt. Christopher E. Wilson,

Troop H

Lt. James E. Wilt, Troop B

Sgt. Donald J. Windham, Q/DDCC

15 Years

Clerk Typist III Sandra S. Hale,

Troop A

10 Years

Staff Artist III Erin M. Center,

Q/PIED

Lead Radio Personnel Randy E.

Fish, Troop G

DE III Danny L. Hendricks,

Troop D

Telecom. David L. Huffine,

Troop B

Crim. Hist. Spec. II Dianna L.

Neier, Q/CRID

DE Sprv. Chi-Chi N. Steele,

Troop D

Clerk IV Radonna K. Bender,

Q/CommD

5 Years

Data Entry Oper. III Dustine M.

Green, Q/TFD

DE III Aimee S. Knisley, Troop C

Telecom. Dixie V. McHenry,

Troop A

September

30 Years

CVO Sprv. James M. Masters,

Troop E

Comp. Info. Tech. Spec. II Pamela

E. Ferguson, Q/ISD

25 Years

MVI Sprv. Richard L. Wiethop,

Troop C

20 Years

CVO II Dennis C. Leach, Troop C

Crim. Hist. Spec. II Carol A. Otto,

Q/CRID

15 Years

MVI III Lloyd G. Richards,

Troop D

10 Years

MVI III Elizabeth M. Manley,

Troop A

Clerk Typist III Doris A.

McAllister, Troop E

Crim. III Lisa H. Walker, Q/CLD

Comp. Info. Tech. III Kellie L.

Foster, Q/ISD

5 Years

DE III Dana L. Madrueno,

Troop A

Fingerprint Tech. I Nicole A. Guy,

Q/CRID

DE III Everett E. Warren, Troop A

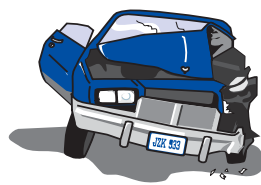
CJIS Mgr. Laurie M. Crawford,

Q/CRID

UCR Trainer/Qual. Assur. Aud.

Robert C. Hanson, Q/CRID

August



Traffic Fatalities

August 9

- State Fair detail begins.

August 17

- Cpl. J.A. Sampietro Jr. died in 2005.

August 21

- State Fair detail ends.

Year to Date July 31, 2006	Same Period Last Year Year to Date	Number of Increase or Decrease	2004 Traffic Fatalities	2005 Traffic Fatalities
616	751	-135	1130	1257

Note: These totals do not include late deaths.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Crim. Sprv. Kay E. Monk



Appointed: July 1, 1993.

First Assignment: Criminalist I, Criminal Laboratory Division, Troop B Crime Lab, Macon, MO.

Promotions: Criminalist II — July 1, 1995; Criminalist III — July 1, 1997; Criminalist Supervisor — July 1, 2003.

Current Assignment: Criminalist Supervisor, Crime Laboratory Division, Troop D Crime Lab, Springfield, MO.

Family: Kay is married to Trooper Shane R. Monk, and they have two children: Samantha, 8, and Brady, 5. They have two cats Quincy and Samuel, both 10 years old. Kay and Shane are both originally from Sioux City, Iowa.

Interests: Kay likes spending time with her family and friends, reading mysteries, hiking, biking, and going to the theater.

Kay Monk, criminalist supervisor, graduated from the University of Iowa (Go Hawkeyes!) on May 15, 1993, with a bachelor's of science degree in chemistry. She transferred to the GHQ Crime Laboratory and was there for six months while her husband, Trooper S.R. Monk, was in the Academy.

Kay said when Shane graduated from the Academy, he was assigned to Troop D. She was thankful that Captain T.J. Luikart allowed her to transfer to the Troop D Crime Lab. She has been there since January 1, 1997.

Kay said she joined the Highway Patrol because of her interest in foren-

sic science. (She grew up watching "Quincy".) Also, she'd heard that Missouri had a good crime lab system.

Her professional memberships include Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists, American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and American Society of Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board. Kay is a member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Bolivar, MO.

She says the most memorable event since she joined the Patrol was when her husband graduated from the Highway Patrol Academy in December 1996. "I am so proud of the fine trooper that he is."

Tpr. Michael G. Slaughter



Appointed: March 15, 2000.

First and Current Assignment: Troop E, Zone 2.

Family: Mike has three daughters: Cassie 18, Kaitlyn 8, and Haley 4.

Interest: Mike enjoys the outdoors. He likes to hunt, fish, and ride his recently purchased motorcycle.

Mike was born in St. Charles, MO, and his family moved to Zalma, MO, when he was five. He graduated from Zalma High School in 1987. Mike worked construction, and was employed with Robertson Contractors as a bridge builder in Poplar Bluff, MO, before joining the Patrol.

Mike said he always liked the Missouri State Highway Patrol and thought you had to be a college graduate to be a member. When he found out differently, he applied.

Mike said, "I wanted to be a member of the best of the best."

Mike is always trying to help someone. He volunteers for any and every detail that comes along, and enjoys whatever he is doing. He is a hard working, dedicated employee, and certainly an asset to his zone and the Patrol.

ACTE Todd L. Robitsch



Appointed: July 1, 1996.

First Assignment: Radio and Telecommunications Technician, Troop E.

Current Assignment: Assistant Chief Telecommunications Engineer, Troop E.

Family: Todd is married to Nancy (Jones) from Reeves, MO, and they have two children: Kathy, 15, and Candace, 9.

Interests: Todd enjoys fly-fishing, and watching his children play volleyball and softball.

Todd was born in St. Louis, MO, and grew up in DeSoto, MO, where he graduated from DeSoto High School in 1976. Todd attended Southeast Missouri State University, where he earned a bachelor's of science degree in education with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry in 1980.

Todd returned to DeSoto after college to teach school for two years, teaching math and physical science. In 1982, Todd joined the U.S. Army, serving until 1988 in Georgia, Alabama, and Belgium. After serving our country, Todd worked at Larron Labs in Cape

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Girardeau, MO. Todd again went into the teaching field in 1989, at Campbell High School where he taught physical science, chemistry, physics, and biology until he joined the Patrol in 1996.

Todd enjoys working with people and always has that big smile saying, "How may I help you?" Todd says the part of his job he really likes the most is climbing towers. He is an excellent instructor, and is an active member of Fellowship General Baptist Church in Poplar Bluff, MO. Todd is commonly known as Radio-Robitsch at Troop E.

Sgt. Alan "Al" E. Raetz



Appointed: July 9, 1979.

First Assignment: Troop D, Zone 10.

Promotions: Corporal — July 1, 1991;
Sergeant — December 1, 1993.

Current Assignment: Troop D, Zone 10, Webster County.

Family: Alan is married to Susan, and they have three children, sons: Mike, Cody; and daughter Erica.

Interests: Al spends a lot of time at his farm in Taney County. "I don't hunt, but I'm constantly on guard for fellow troopers who want to 'thin out my deer herd for me.'" Al has been playing the trumpet for several years. Several times a year he will join with his brothers and play as a group.

Al obtained a bachelor's of science degree from the College of the Ozarks in 1978. His master's degree, from Central Missouri State University, was com-

pleted in 1987. He has taught criminal justice classes for approximately 10 years at College of the Ozarks, Webster University, and Columbia College.

Al gives the following advice, "Any Patrol employee can retire wealthy if they would listen to a little advice when they start their careers with the Patrol. (I'll give it for free!) The main mistake I see people make is living beyond their means and acquiring too much debt."

I've seen a lot of changes over the years in the Patrol. Technical advances are the main improvement, but also

there's a big difference in officer safety. (Troopers did not even wear seat belts when I first started.)"

Al has been assigned to four State Fairs and multiple manhunts over the years. He won three medals (gold, silver, bronze) three years in a row at the Police Olympics when he competed in power lifting events. He went from power lifting to running when the Patrol started PT testing. His last PT test was his best time: 1 1/2 miles in eight minutes and 24 seconds ... at 48 years of age. Since then, an injury has made him a walker.

'Looking Beyond the Stop'

The following officers are to be commended for looking beyond the initial stop. Each of these officers made at least one felony arrest during the period of April 25, 2006 to June 14, 2006. *(Editor's Note: This column excludes DWI arrests, warrant arrests, and "plain sight" situations. Keep in mind that there must be information under the "miscellaneous" section of the report to be considered for this column.)*

Troop A

Tpr. J.W. Choate, 2 arrests*
CVO Sprv. I A.D. Steele, 2 assists*
Cpl. C.F. Scott, 2 arrests
Tpr. C.E. Utterback, 1 arrest
Tpr. M.P. Fennewald, 2 arrests
Sgt. W.P. Bremer, 2 arrests
Tpr. R.B. McGinnis, 3 arrests
Tpr. B.E. Brooks, 2 arrests
Tpr. W.E. Oliver, 5 arrests
Tpr. S.S. Market, 1 arrest
Tpr. M.M. Gordon, 1 arrest
Cpl. C.N. Bradley, 2 arrests
Cpl. B.S. Hagerty, 1 arrest
Tpr. K.R. Sanders, 1 arrest

Troop B

Tpr. T.J. Hollmann, 1 arrest

Troop C

Tpr. S.S. Sitton, 1 arrest
Tpr. B.A. Moore, 1 arrest
Tpr. S.L. Sizer, 1 arrest
Cpl. M.G. Broniec, 1 arrest
Cpl. G.C. Swartz, 2 arrests**
CVO Sprv. I T.W. Geisert, 2 assists**

Troop D

Tpr. S.R. Rowe, 1 arrest
Cpl. D.L. Kuechler, 1 arrest

Tpr. J.L. Gertson, 1 arrest
Sgt. G.L. Braden, 1 arrest

Troop E

Tpr. J.A. Lacey, 1 arrest

Troop F

Tpr. A.C. Piercy, 1 arrest
Tpr. T.D. Stegeman, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.R. Powell, 3 arrests
Cpl. S.D. Rudloff, 1 arrest
Tpr. M.T. Halford, 1 arrest
Tpr. K.J. Huenink, 1 arrest

Troop G

Tpr. B.D. Odle, 1 arrest
Tpr. R.M. Greenan, 1 arrest
Cpl. S.W. Crouch, 1 arrest

Troop H

Tpr. A.A. Henry, 2 arrests
Tpr. J.C. Acree, 1 arrest
Cpl. T.B. Gardner, 2 arrests
Cpl. C.B. Root, 1 arrest

Troop I

Tpr. K.D. Wilmont, 2 arrests
Tpr. J.E. Riggs, 1 arrest
Cpl. S.J. Childers, 1 arrest

St. Louis AutoDealers Present "Skid Monster" To Patrol

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

The St. Louis AutoDealers Association presented a "Skid Monster" to the Missouri State Highway Patrol for use during training. According to Colonel Roger D. Stottlemire, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Skid Monster will be used at the emergency vehicle operation course during recruit training and other police schools held at the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy.

"We felt the Patrol might be able to use the Skid Monster," said Mr. David Crafton, executive vice president of the St. Louis AutoDealers Association, "so, we called. We hope it provides valuable experience during training."

The Skid Monster is a set of casting wheels, capable of rotating 360 degrees. This device is attached to the rear wheels of a vehicle after the two rear tires are removed. The purpose of this device is to allow the driver to experience a temporary loss of control similar to what could happen when driving on ice or when a vehicle hydroplanes. The driver can then practice overcoming the loss with steering techniques.

"I appreciate the St. Louis AutoDealers Association and their concern for the safety of our officers. Emer-



Pictured are: Captain J.D. Biram, director of the Training Division; Major Hugh E. McKay, commander of the Administrative Services Bureau; Mr. David Crafton, St. Louis AutoDealers Association; and Sgt. W.D. "Rusty" Bourg, Cpl. C. Joey Day, and Cpl. Mark A. Wilson, all instructors in the Training Division.

gency vehicle operation training is part of our recruit training program, and is offered to other peace officers in Missouri through our Law Enforcement Academy. The Skid Monster will be a positive addition to our current training program," said Colonel Roger D.

Stottlemire, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. "On behalf of the Patrol, I want to sincerely thank Mr. Crafton and his organization for their support."

Tpr. J. Darron Wheeler Honored

By Sgt. Marty Elmore, Troop G

On Thursday, June 15, 2006, the West Plains Optimist Club presented Trooper J. Darron Wheeler with the Officer of the Year Award for 2006. Tpr. Wheeler received the award in recognition of his excellent work in the area of DWI enforcement. The presentation was made at the club's weekly luncheon meeting held at Ryan's Restaurant.

The award was presented by the Optimist Club's Respect for Law Chairman Jack Pahlmann. (Mr. Pahlmann also happens to be the president of The MASTERS.) In making the presentation, Pahlmann read Captain Billy E. Chadwick's nomination letter praising

Tpr. Wheeler for his excellent work in the area of DWI enforcement.

Troop G Chief Telecommunications Engineer Lou Wehmer presented an

excellent and detailed PowerPoint program covering the history of the Patrol and our 75th Anniversary celebration this year.

We at Troop G wish to add our congratulations to Tpr. Wheeler for this recognition and for doing his part to rid our highways of drunk drivers.



Pictured, left to right, are Captain Billy E. Chadwick, Trooper J. Darron Wheeler, Mr. Jack Pahlmann, and Sergeant David D. Finley.

Inspection Leads To Record Drug Seizure

By Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division

During the late evening hours of March 30, 2006, commercial vehicle officers of the Missouri State Highway Patrol played an instrumental role in a drug seizure of record proportion.

At approximately 8:45 p.m., commercial vehicle officers assigned to Post D-4-East stopped an eastbound tractor-trailer for inspection. Post D-4 is a weigh station located on Interstate 44 near Joplin in the southwest corner of Missouri. The commercial vehicle was loaded with automobiles. The inspecting officers discovered the driver's CDL was suspended and found violations in the driver's record of duty status. A computer check of the co-driver revealed an outstanding felony warrant. Also, during the inspection, the officers became suspicious because of the types of violations discovered as well as conflicting statements made by the driver and co-driver.

The officers contacted the Newton County zone office and a trooper responded to the scale house. The trooper obtained consent to search the vehicle and the load. The Newton County Sheriff's Office responded with a canine unit and the dog alerted to two of the vehicles loaded on the trailer. A



Pictured are the 12 kilograms of cocaine confiscated during a commercial vehicle inspection.

Nissan minivan was found to contain 12 kilograms of cocaine stashed in a fabricated compartment in the dash. A second vehicle, a Ford SUV, contained two cardboard boxes. Each of the boxes contained 20, one-gallon cans containing an unknown liquid. Further testing revealed the liquid to be phencyclidine, or PCP.

This is the largest seizure of PCP (Angel Dust) on record in the United States. The estimated street value for this PCP is \$40 million, and the street value of the cocaine is estimated to be between \$500,000 and \$1 million. The United States Attorney's Office has agreed to prosecute the case in federal court. A hazmat unit contracted by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency processed the PCP. Both drivers were arrested for felony second-degree drug trafficking, as well as for other charges stemming from the inspection, then incarcerated in the Newton County jail.

During the inspection of this commercial vehicle, the officers were able to rely on their training and experience. The ability to be observant and to conduct a good driver interview played key roles in this landmark drug seizure. Looking beyond the obvious violations, "looking beyond the initial stop", is one reason why the commercial vehicle officers of the Missouri State Highway Patrol are successful in their drug interdiction efforts.



Alert CVOs led officers to the discovery of 20 cans of PCP.

MOAPCO AND MSHP COMM D TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

By ACTE John D Hamilton, Troop D

Missouri statute requires 40 hours of approved training for telecommunicators working in primary public safety answering points. The Missouri Chapter of APCO (Association of Public Safety Communications Officials) and the Missouri State Highway Patrol Communications Division formed a partnership in 2002, to offer Missouri-mandated telecommunicator training. Students benefit from experienced and expert instruction from Missouri's leading agencies in public safety communications.

Communications Division personnel have been actively involved in this state-wide commitment to professionalism. Forty-hour APCO classes utilizing MoAPCO and MSHP Communications Division instructors have been held in Troops A, D, E, F, and H. The most recent class was held at both Troops D and H.

What made this class unique was a portion of the students at Troop H Headquarters viewed students and instructors at Troop D Headquarters via [videoconference link](#). Instructors from



The Patrol and MoAPCO formed a partnership in 2002 to offer mandated training for telecommunicators. This picture shows the recent training for telecommunicators held at Troop D Headquarters.

seven different agencies, including the Patrol's Communications Division, participated. Agencies from Northwest, Southwest, and Southeast Missouri enrolled students in the class. Telephone and radio technique, call classification, and liability were just a few of topics covered. Students are awarded state and national certification upon successful completion of the class.

In addition to classes being offered, the MoAPCO/MSHP partnership is

currently planning to host a combined MoAPCO/CJIS (MULES) conference. MoAPCO instructors will provide conference courses in emergency communications, and MSHP personnel from CommD and CRID will provide courses related to the statewide MULES network. The conference is scheduled for September 25, 26, and 27 at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City.

Burger Bash Nets \$\$ For Special Olympics

By Ret. Capt. Christian T. Ricks

What can I say about you wonderful people? We purchased 192 hamburgers (Sorry, they come in bags of 24 and eight bags is 192.) and we served 192 hamburgers! (Actually, we served 191 — one poor hamburger committed suicide by jumping right off the bun.) We ran out of burgers, we ran out of tea, we ran out of lemonade, (Thank you to those last few who only got water and never complained once.) we ran out of beans, and we had nobody left in line. Mark Musso, president of Special Olympics, and Colonel Roger D. Stottlemire didn't get any food, but since they weren't actually in line, I'm sticking to my original story.

Okay, here's the bottom line — after all of the expenses were taken

out (Do you realize I have to twist arms to get these committee members to take money for their expenditures?) we gave a check to Special Olympics for (drum roll) \$791!!!!

By the time we sold those cookies and brownies upstairs, we were over the \$800 mark.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Wasn't Tina darling? If you didn't get to meet Tina, you might like to know she went to the National games with Team Missouri as a tennis player. She is one of the sweetest people you will ever meet and she just loved telling people they only got one dessert. Our other athlete guest, John, was a little reserved. This was John's first encounter with such a large group of people — but he hung in



Captain Chris Ricks laughs with guests at the Special Olympics Hamburger Day.

there and made sure everybody got to meet our money taker — Traffic Safety Analyst III Sandi Cole, Q/TFD.

Again, thank you to some great co-workers. We were concerned about selling 120 hamburgers — we sold 191!

From The Office Of: Governor Matt Blunt

Missouri: No Place For Sexual Predators

For law enforcement officials, nothing is more frustrating than building a case against a sexual predator and then watching him walk out the courthouse doors as a free man on probation. In order for the men and women in law enforcement to protect our young, innocent children, we needed more stringent laws against those who commit the most depraved acts.

I signed House Bill 1698, modeled after Florida's Jessica's law, to provide our law enforcement community with new tools, so sex offenders we eliminate from the streets are kept out of our neighborhoods and away from our children. I thank concerned **law enforcement officials across the state who spent countless hours ensuring that this bill was meaningful and enforceable.**

The heart of this bill adopts mandatory sentences for those who commit rape and forcible sodomy against a child younger than 12 years of age. Anyone convicted of these crimes will receive a sentence of lifetime imprisonment with a minimum of 30 years served in prison without eligibility for probation or parole.

Missouri can now do a better job tracking sex offenders. The Missouri State Highway Patrol has maintained a sex offender registry, but now, with a toll free number, the latest information will be easily even more accessible. Under this new law, sex offender registries would include any known alias, updated photos, physical descriptions, qualifying offenses, release date, and other new details.

The Internet is becoming a hub for predators to entice children into becoming victims of horrific sex crimes. Sexual perpetrators who communicate with undercover law enforcement offic-

ers posing as a child will now face harsher penalties for attempting to lure a child into a sexual encounter. The consequence has intensified to a felony with no less than five years jail time. The bill also provides the Department of Public Safety with funds to create a grant program allowing local law enforcement jurisdictions to create Internet cyber crime law enforcement task forces to help investigate sexually-based crimes.

The bill complements legislation signed last year requiring lifetime moni-

toring for criminals convicted of certain sex offenses against children as a condition of parole. Missouri was among the first states in the nation to require the lifetime global positioning satellite (GPS) tracking.

I believe the law enforcement community now has the proper resources to combat undemanding judges who refuse to put sex offenders behind bars, and who, ultimately, risk the integrity of Missouri's public safety system.

Classic Patrol Car Continues To Turn Heads

By Sgt. Timothy R. Tinnin, Troop F

Sgt. Mike Cunningham's 1993 5.0 Patrol Mustang continues to turn heads and draw attention. After being "retired" in 1996, the car changed hands several times, going to several other departments across the country. In 2004, Sgt. Cunningham was contacted by the then-owner who said he had researched the car and done some restorations to bring it back to its prior MSHP glory days. He then said he was planning to sell it and asked if Mike would be interested. A trip to Michigan later and, as they say, the rest was history.

Sgt. Cunningham has shown the car at various events and it consistently gets lots of attention. The Patrol had Mustangs in service on the road for only a few years, but they made a huge impact on the public as is evidenced by the flocks of people who are drawn to the car and the photos of it taken. The 153-HP-mobile is completely restored including: original radios, MPH S-80 radar unit, P-number, and all the way down to Patrol blanket and activity book. It truly looks like it did when it was cruising Interstate 70 on a daily basis.

Sgt. Cunningham recently displayed "his baby" at the annual Central Missouri Mustang Car Show in Columbia and took first place in the Specialty Car Division. The appeal of a classic muscle car draped in MSHP logos inspired lots of conversations between those that saw the Mustang in action and those that would love to see them again. More than one sheepish grin has been seen as the visitor recalls when he saw the Patrol "Pony Car" in his rearview mirror and realized he "was got".

It has also proven an effective recruiting tool as young men and women frequently are drawn to get a closer look. They then get an opportunity to talk about the Patrol with a veteran officer. Sgt. Cunningham has offered to provide his car for special events and recruiting opportunities such as the Missouri State Fair and parades.

Congratulations, Mike on the first place award and for keeping a piece of Patrol tradition alive!

Radio, Trooper Recruits Share Training

By Chief Timothy Wever, Q/CommD

Each recruit class is instructed in the proper use of communications equipment while at the Academy. Good communication between radio personnel and troopers is vital to fulfilling the Patrol's mission of service and protection. For the first time in Patrol history, newly hired radio personnel attending a "Radio Recruit Academy" and members of the 85th Recruit Class shared a classroom. It was a successful exercise, with both classes learning proper techniques and communication etiquette.

The five-week "Radio Recruit Academy" began on Monday, April 10, for 17 recently hired or reclassified radio personnel recruits. The curriculum included orientation and presentations by over 40 instructors/presenters from Patrol divisions, state agencies, and local law enforcement agencies. Radio recruits earned certification in numerous areas. Curriculum topics included: NIMS, MULES40, APCO PST1, cultural



Radio Personnel Recruit Kendra L. Shell, Troop E, participates in a practical exercise during joint training with the 85th Patrol Recruit Class.

Recruit Elizabeth A. Lusk, a member of the 85th Recruit Class, perfects her radio skills.

awareness, verbal judo, radio communications, CAD, EAS, telephone procedures, and over 60 hours of practical exercises. The class toured the GHQ complex, GHQ Radio Shop,



SEMA, and the Capitol grounds. The radio recruits graduated on Friday, May 12. The 85th Recruit Class graduated July 14, 2006.

Convincers Show Importance Of Seat Belts

By Public Information and Education Division

On Thursday, May 25, 2006, a press conference hosted by the Coalition for Roadway Safety, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and the Missouri Department of Transportation introduced Missouri's new "seat belt convincers". The Convincer is a device that stimulates a five mile-per-hour crash, showing the occupant how seat belts can help protect people in motor vehicles.

The Coalition for Roadway Safety, working in conjunction with the Missouri Safety Center at Central Missouri State University, has purchased nine convincers from Kansas State University, where they were manufactured. The convincers will be housed at the nine troop headquarters of the Highway Patrol, and will be available for demonstrations throughout the state.



Captain Ronald L. Walker, Q/FOB, experiences the Convincer.

"In the midst of our national "Click It or Ticket" Campaign, it seems only appropriate that we should roll out our new Seat Belt Convincers," said LeAnna Depue, director of the Office of Highway Safety. "Our citizens will see firsthand how well seat belts protect the

occupants of motor vehicles without having to go through a traffic crash to prove that point."

Col. Stottlemire added, "We know we can save more lives and keep people from being seriously injured if we can just get them to wear their seat belts. These Convincers are just one more tool in our education package designed to help us get more Missourians to buckle up."

USEOW PROVIDES FORUM

Troopers Discuss Common Issues

By Sgt. John J. Hotz, Troop A

In June 2005, members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol attended the Uniformed Safety Education Officers Workshop (USEOW) in Council Bluffs, Iowa. This annual conference, which has taken place since the late 1960s, was hosted by the Iowa State Patrol. USEOW provides an opportunity for state troopers to get together and find new ways to combat common problems. The conference is concluded each year with a business meeting. During the 2005 business meeting, it was determined the Mississippi Highway Patrol would host the conference in 2006, at one of the brand new casino resorts in Biloxi, MS. The states of Missouri and Kansas agreed to explore the possibility of co-hosting the conference in the Kansas City area in 2007. The command staff of both states agreed to the joint effort and the planning process began.

Our plans were accelerated in January 2006, when we received a call from the Mississippi Highway Patrol asking for help. Hurricane Katrina had destroyed the casino resort that was to be the location for the upcoming USEOW. Due to the devastation caused by the hurricane, Mississippi asked the Mis-

souri/Kansas team to host the conference in 2006. We immediately began putting together a conference—in about six months' time. It was decided early in the planning that we wanted to host the conference in a family-friendly environment. Thus, the Great Wolf Lodge was selected as the conference location. We also decided we wanted to offer sponsorships to four troopers from each of the states devastated by the hurricane.

After meeting twice monthly for six months, the conference began June 11, 2006. One hundred and fifty two people from 18 states attended. Each state made a safety presentation and shared ideas about common public safety issues. In addition to the normal schedule of events, attendees went to a Kansas City T-bone game, ate at Dave & Busters, and took a tour of the Kansas Speedway. By all accounts, the conference was a huge success. Several companies made substantial monetary donations to



the conference. They included: the American Association of State Troopers, the American Trucker's Association, the Kansas State Trooper's Association, Operation Lifesaver, State Farm Insurance Company, and Yellow Freight. The Mississippi Highway Patrol also sent \$9,000 they had already collected to offset conference costs.

This conference allowed the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Missouri State Highway Patrol to show what two premier law enforcement agencies can accomplish when they work together. The location for next year's conference is not yet known.



Troopers from 18 states gathered to discuss common public safety issues.

An intense discussion by the MSHP contingent decides what program gets their vote for first place.

RETIREMENTS

Sgt. Donald E. Phillips



The Missouri State Highway Patrol honors Sergeant Donald "Don" E. Phillips and his 28 years of dedicated service with the announcement of his impending retirement. Sgt. Phillips has proudly served the Patrol throughout his career and is leaving the Patrol a better organization because of his service.

Don was born in St. Louis, MO, and graduated from Rolla High School in Rolla, MO. After graduating high school, he attended College of The Ozarks in Point Lookout, MO, and graduated with bachelor's of science degree in physical education in 1973. Don coached high school basketball at Hollister High School until joining the Patrol in 1978.

His first Patrol assignment was Troop D, Branson, until 1979 when he transferred to Kimberling City. Don was promoted to corporal and assigned to Stone County in 1990, and in 1995 was promoted to sergeant of the same zone, spending practically his entire career in Stone County. Don served in many capacities of the Patrol. He was a crisis negotiator for the Special Emergency Response Team and served as troop coordinator for the Driving While Impaired Victims Advocate (DWIVA) program.

Don is active in many organizations and is a member of the First Baptist Church of Kimberling City. He is an ordained deacon and past vice-chairman for Christian Associates of Table Rock Lake. He is on the College of The

Ozarks Alumni Scholarship Committee and was inducted into the College of The Ozarks Sports Hall of Fame in 1996.

Don is married to Kathrin Kay (Welch), and together they have two daughters, Jennifer and Kimberly, and a son-in-law, Shawn Burks. They also have three grandchildren: Madison (4), Kenley (1), and Connor (20 months).

Troop D employees wish Don and Kathrin a long, happy retirement.

Sgt. J. Sam Steward



Sergeant J. Sam Steward retired July 1, 2006, after 34 years of service to the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Sam's career began when he reported to the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy on July 1, 1972. His first assignment was to Troop F, Zone 5, Morgan and Moniteau counties. July 1, 1974, Sam transferred to Troop C and was assigned to Zone 4, South St. Louis/Northern Jefferson counties. Sam made his residence in Ballwin, MO. In October 1986, Sam was promoted to corporal and transferred to Franklin County, to become the assistant zone commander. Then, in September 1988, Sam was promoted to sergeant and returned to Zone 4 to become the zone commander. It was during the next five years that Sam and his zone members excelled in drug interdiction arrests, thus initiating the Regional Interstate Traffic Enforcement (RITE) zone, of which Sam became a member. In 1999, he was assigned to the FBI Chief Task Force (hotel/mo-

tel) interdiction team. During that tenure, Sam was assigned to the Division of Drug and Crime Control (January 2001). Sam completed his career as a criminal investigator, assigned to the Troop C area.

During his career, some of Sam's assignments included the 1976 Republican National Convention and the 1977 MU Football detail. Sam was one of the original members assigned to Troop C's SERT, and was one of the founding members of the Missouri State Troopers Association.

Sam was born and raised in Elsberry, MO, where his father was the Elsberry police chief before his death. Sam graduated from Elsberry High School and attended Moberly Junior College before graduating from Central Methodist College in Fayette, MO, with a major in sociology and a minor in psychology.

Sam resides in St. Louis County, MO, with his wife, Joy. They have four grown children: Drew, Amy, Anna, and Grant. They are all married except for Grant, who will attend Maryville University in the fall to play soccer and basketball. Sam and Joy are also the proud grandparents of two boys and one girl, with another on the way.

Sam's plans for retirement include watching all of Grant's college soccer and basketball games. Sam said he thoroughly enjoyed his 34 years in the Patrol and made some very good friends along the way.

Sam, we will miss you. Enjoy your retirement.

MSHP

Great ideals and principles do not live from generation to generation just because they are right, nor even because they have been carefully legislated. Ideas and principles continue from generation to generation only when they are built into the hearts of the children as they grow up.

— George S. Benson

RETIREMENTS

CTE Gerald D. “Jerry” Kraus



After 31 years of dedicated service, Chief Technical Engineer Gerald D. (Jerry) Kraus retired from the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Jerry began his career on May 1, 1975, with GHQ Communications (at that time, Troop F Radio was designated GHQ) as a probationary radio operator in Jefferson City.

In mid-June 1975, he learned he would be transferring to Troop E as their eighth radio operator. He reported to Poplar Bluff on August 1, 1975.

“I didn’t know much about Southeast Missouri when I arrived,” said Jerry, “and I wondered why they kept referring to me as the hillbilly, until I became more familiar with how flat so much of that part of the state is.” After that, he settled into the routine, at what he always referred to as “a great place to work.”

In November 1975, Jerry completed probation and was designated a radio operator. Then, in early 1976, due to restructuring and the probationary period being extended to 18 months, Jerry said, “I got a raise, and was placed back on probation. In November of that year, I got another raise, and came off probation.”

In April 1978, Jerry transferred back to Troop F as a radio operator. From 1979-1981, he taught VIN Systems during the Basic Police Communications Schools at the Academy.

Along with Ed Keeney, he taught several MULES Inquiry/Entry classes

for municipal communications personnel, prior to the creation of the trainer positions in the Communications Division. August 1982, he transferred to the Radio Shop as a shop technician where he began installing radios in patrol vehicles and repairing siren systems. In October 1983 he was promoted to shop engineer.

In mid-1984, the Patrol acquired some new infrared-based, breath-alcohol instruments to replace the aging Breathalyzer units. When it became obvious these new instruments would require some additional skills to maintain, Jerry was selected to attend the training at the Department of Health Laboratory. Later, after attending training at the manufacturers’ facility, Jerry began servicing all Patrol breath-alcohol instruments. He also began assisting with the 16-hour, instrument-specific training during the Blood Alcohol Content School at the Academy.

From 1985-1987 he was also the radar technician. He assisted with the technical input on the evaluation and purchase of the MPH S80 radar units. Jerry later assumed the role of backup radar technician, and remained in that capacity when the current Stalker radar units were purchased.

In 1986, Jerry became the first member of the Communications Division to complete Blood Alcohol Content School, and the first to be issued a Type II Breath Analyzer Operator Permit. He took over the instrument specific instruction, as well as instruction on breath alcohol simulators, and in fact, taught during the school in which he earned his permit.

Recognized throughout the state as an expert witness on both traffic radar and breath alcohol instrumentation, he testified in several cases. Part of that qualification was earned in 1990, when he had the privilege of attending the “Tests for BAC in Highway Safety Programs: Supervision and Expert Testimony” course at Indiana University, Center for Studies of Law in Action, under the direction of Dr. Robert Borkenstein, the inventor of the Breathalyzer.

Also in 1990, he designed the first video surveillance system for a troop,

and installed it at Troop E. It’s still in use today. From 1990-2000, Jerry led a team that installed and maintained multiple intrusion and fire alarm systems at Patrol facilities statewide. The most challenging of those was the system at the Park Hills laboratory and Service Center.

“That was the first alarm project we designed from the building plans,” Jerry recalled, “It required a crew of four from Jefferson City over 200 man-hours to install, in increments, as the building was being constructed.”

In 1994, he was promoted to technical shop engineer, and continued his duties in the areas of breath alcohol and alarm systems. Following the retirement of Vernon Fisher, he also became the Academy audio/visual technician, and the technician for many of the automated displays at the Patrol’s Safety Education Center, especially Ben Booth and Otto—The Talking Car.

In June 2000, he wrote “The Type II Breath Alcohol Analyzer Permittee Guide to Breath Alcohol Simulators, DHSS Maintenance Reports, and the BAC Datamaster”. The book was distributed to all students enrolled in Blood Alcohol Content schools at the Academy as a comprehensive reference resource. It was adopted by the Department of Health and Senior Services and distributed across the state to permit holders attending their refresher courses, and has been distributed to most Patrol permit holders. The book has undergone a few recent revisions to reflect changing policy and technological advancements.

Later in 2000, he was promoted to chief technical engineer, supervising the Communications Division Technical Section, which comprises of all the technicians and field engineers in the state. Together, they install and maintain all Patrol base stations, communications centers, and mobile equipment, as well as the special systems such as alarms, breath alcohol, and traffic radar.

Over the course of his career, Jerry served on numerous committees, and held numerous memberships including:

Continued on the next page.

RETIREMENTS

—Kraus

Continued from page 23.

the MSHP Mobile Computing Device Steering Committee, the MSHP In-Car Video Evaluation/Selection Committee, the Missouri Breath Alcohol Technical Advisory Council, the Department of Health State Interagency DWI Workgroup, the MSHP Breath Test Device Committee, the Missouri Breath Alcohol Instrument Advisory Committee, the Associated Public Safety Communications Officials, and the International Association for Chemical Testing.

He also served on many special assignments, the most memorable of which were the communications details at the MU football games; the inaugurations of Governors Bond, Holden, and Blunt; and the funeral detail for Governor Carnahan.

Jerry was born and grew up in Jefferson City, where he graduated from Helias High School. He went on to graduate from United Electronics Institute in Kansas City, and from there, enrolled in the Central Institute of Technology, Kansas City, to pursue a bachelor's degree in electronics engineering technology. Uncle Sam had a different idea and entered Jerry into the only lottery he ever won. After basic training and 25 weeks of advanced individualized training, Jerry was stationed at the U.S. Army Night Vision Laboratory, where he served until his separation in 1974.

In 1970, while working at a local service station on weekends, Jerry met his future wife, after being asked by a friend to "give his girlfriend a ride to and from Kansas City on the weekends", where she was attending airline hostess school. He and Joyce (Grefrath), who was from Jefferson City, were married in 1971. Together they have four grown children: Angela Hughes, Kansas City; Melissa Cook, Jefferson City; Sarah Saucier, St Peters; and Jonathan Kraus, Jefferson City. Their five grandchildren are: Madeline (5), Audrey (2), and Alexander Cook (11 months); Katherine Hughes (3); and Kalyn Saucier (9 months). A sixth

grandchild is due in the Hughes family around Christmas 2006.

Jerry lists hunting, fishing, and golf as hobbies. "After proper attention to a list of long neglected home improvement projects, I hope to have the time to do more of those other things." For now, Jerry and Joyce plan to stay in the Jefferson City area, with occasional excursions to other parts of the country.

We wish Jerry and his family a long and happy retirement!

DE Chief Rebecca "Becky" McKinley



Driver Examiner Chief Rebecca "Becky" McKinley retired May 31, 2006, after 21 years of dedicated service to the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Becky began her career with the Patrol on October 14, 1975, as a Clerk Typist 1. On May 1, 1976, Becky was promoted to Clerk Typist II, and on November 1, 1978, she was promoted to Clerk Typist III, continuing to work at Troop E Headquarters. On August 1, 1988, Becky left troop headquarters to begin a new career as a Driver Examiner I. On February 1, 1989, she was promoted to Driver Examiner II, and on August 1, 1993, she was promoted to Driver Examiner III. She held that position until January 1, 1996, when she was promoted to driver examiner su-

pervisor. On April 1, 1998, Becky was promoted to chief driver examiner for Troop E, and held that position until her retirement.

Becky was born in Poplar Bluff, MO. She graduated from Poplar Bluff High School in 1975. Becky attended the civilian supervision school in 1998, as well as training for fitness testers in 1999. She was a member of the Commercial Drivers License Charter Team Focus Group, and served on the Driver Examiners Committee.

Becky is married to Commercial Vehicle Officer Mike McKinley, assigned to scale truck 1509, who works the west side of Troop E. She and Mike have four children and 16 grandchildren.

Becky says the only thing she has planned now is to enjoy her family—mainly her grandchildren—and do whatever she wants to do. Her smiling face and helpful heart will certainly be missed at Troop E Headquarters. We wish Becky and her family the best of luck in her retirement.

DE III Vonna J. Crabb



The Missouri State Highway Patrol honors Driver Examiner III Vonna Crabb and her 25 years of dedicated service with the announcement of her retirement. Driver Examiner Crabb has proudly served the Patrol throughout her career and left the organization better because of her service in the Driver Examination Division.

RETIREMENTS

Vonna Crabb was born in Elsey, Missouri and graduated from Central High School in Springfield, MO, in 1965. In 1981, Vonna worked at Troop D headquarters as a Clerk Typist III. In 1988, Vonna transferred to the Driver Examination Division where she continued her career and was eventually promoted to Driver Examiner III and assigned to a traveling crew.

Vonna and her husband Dennis reside in Clever, MO, and together have two children: Amber (27) and Justin (25). The Patrol recognizes and appreciates the commitment and dedication Vonna has demonstrated throughout her career.

Fingerprint Tech. Sprv. Shirley R. Talken



Fingerprint Technician Supervisor Shirley R. Talken retired from the Criminal Records and Identification Division on August 1, 2006, after 31-years of dedicated service. She spent her entire working career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol in CRID.

Shirley was hired on June 9, 1975, as a Clerk I, promoted to Clerk II on January 1, 1976, Clerk III on July 1, 1978, Video Operator II on August 1, 1981, Video Operator III on July 1, 1984, Data Entry Operator I on June 7, 1985, Data Entry Operator II on September 1, 1985, Data Entry Operator III on June 1, 1988, Quality Control Clerk I on March 1, 1994, Quality Control Clerk II on March 1, 1997, fingerprint

services coordinator on May 1, 2000, clerical services supervisor on March 1, 2001, and fingerprint technician supervisor on August 1, 2002.

Shirley has seen many changes in technology in her career with CRID, from the preparation of computers in 1975 to the implementation of electronic submission of fingerprints to CRID and the FBI on August 12, 2003.

Shirley said her most memorable job experience occurred when she was reviewing a Rap Sheet on an individual who was applying for a job (not a Patrol employee), and noticed that he filed an appeal for a 15-year conviction two years earlier. The appeal papers indicated the appeal was denied and the case was closed. There was no indication in the file that the individual was released. She was curious as to how an individual that was supposed to be incarcerated could be applying for a job. She contacted the Department of Corrections and asked them to look at the appeal. They agreed that the individual should be incarcerated. He was apprehended by local authorities and returned to jail.

"My most memorable job satisfaction occurred when I identified, through fingerprints, one of two pilots in a plane crash in Jefferson City. The officer called me and said the families were grateful because it gave them peace of mind knowing that they were laying their loved one to rest," she said.

Shirley grew up and currently lives in Taos, MO. She graduated May 21, 2001, from Columbia College, with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration. Her parents are Leonard and Mildred Bruemmer; she is the sixth of nine children. Shirley married Danny Talken on May 28, 1977. They have three sons: Nathan (27), Justin (23), and Ryan (22). Shirley and her husband enjoy camping. Last summer they bought a new 28-foot camper and they plan to get a lot of use out of it! Shirley enjoys playing slot machines at the casinos, crafts, oil and acrylic painting, playing the fiddle, and spending time with her family.

After retirement Shirley has accepted a teaching position with Columbia College and plans on broadening

her own business, Professional Fingerprint Impressions at www.profingerprints.com. She would like to teach fingerprinting and classification to private companies, police academies, and/or colleges.

Shirley's professionalism and dedication to the Patrol and CRID will be greatly missed! We who have been privileged to know Shirley wish her the very best and we hope she has an enjoyable retirement.

Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. Sprv. Melburn D. Deaton



On May 31, 2006, Maintenance Supervisor Melburn "Mel" D. Deaton retired after 16 years of dedicated service to the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Mel began his career with the Patrol on January 1, 1990, as building and grounds maintenance employee. On July 1, 1992, Mel was promoted to building and grounds maintenance supervisor. He held that position until his retirement.

Mel was born in Poplar Bluff, MO. He graduated from Poplar Bluff High School in 1959. Mel pastors the Old Oak Hill Community Church, which is a nondenominational church located northeast of Poplar Bluff. Mel has been the pastor since 1975. He has taken several Bible correspondence courses from Burian Bible College over the years while serving as the pastor.

Continued on the next page.

RETIREMENTS

—Deaton

Continued from page 26.

Mel and his wife, Bernice, have three daughters and six grandchildren. He plans to spend more time with them in retirement. He also plans on doing a lot of garden and yard work around the house.

Mel said, "I am starting to build a gazebo at my house tomorrow." Mel will certainly be missed at Troop E.

Mel provided several members of Troop E a fish and chicken luncheon on his last day at work at Troop E Headquarters. If there was anything that needed to be done, repaired, or changed, Mel could and would do it **quickly**. We wish Mel and Bernice the very best in their retirement, and we hope the gazebo building went well.

Housekeeper II Sharon A. Lock



After nearly 14 years of service with the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Housekeeper II Sharon A. Lock, Troop F, retired on April 1, 2006.

Sharon grew up in Freeburg, MO, and was one of seven girls and three boys in her family. She graduated from Fatima High School in Westphalia, MO, in 1968.

Before working for the Patrol, Sharon worked for the Missouri Department of Revenue for 12 years. She also worked for Westinghouse in Jefferson City for five years and was employed at the Callaway Nuclear Plant in Reform, MO, for five additional years.

In November 1992, she returned to state government by being hired as a clerk typist for the Patrol at Troop F. In 1994, she was promoted to Clerk Typist II. On October 12, 1995, Sharon was placed on long-term disability leave. In June 2002, she returned to Troop F as a 1,000-hour employee. In July 2002, she began her present work as a full-time employee.

Sharon has three children: Naomi, Matthew, and LeAnn. She also has four grandchildren. She is excited about spending more time with the grandchildren after retirement. She also enjoys painting, drawing, sewing, and cutting hair. In addition to her hobbies, she will increase her time assisting her family and enjoy spending time in her garden.

"I've enjoyed my time working for the Patrol," said Sharon. "I'm going to miss the people I work with. However, I won't miss the cold winter mornings when I had to get up early to go to work."

A retirement reception was held on March 31, 2006, at Troop F in Sharon's honor. Everyone at Troop F wishes Sharon a happy and healthy retirement.

MSHP

FOCUS ON THE JOB AT HAND

As a catcher, Yogi Berra was infamous for heckling batters and trying to disturb their concentration. He wasn't so successful with all players. During the 1957 World Series, home run champ Hank Aaron stepped up to the plate and readied his bat to do as much damage as possible.

Berra, noticing that Aaron was violating a long-standing rule among batters, said, "Turn that bat around, so you can see the trademark."

Without taking his eyes off the pitcher, Aaron said, "I didn't come up here to read. I came up here to hit."



Nolan Van

Tpr. Derek E. and Kimberly A. Rogers
Troop F

Layne Matthew

Tpr. Tom B. and Kimberly E. Ziegler
Troop H

Blake Alexander

Tpr. Dustin B. and Brandy M. Reed
Troop C

Jason Chadwick II

Cpl. Jason C. and Liza Flanigan
Troop A

Addison Elise

Tpr. James W. and Jennifer A. Collins
Troop I

Lydra Ann

Info. Analyst II Lori A. and Mr. Allen V. Kirchner
Q/CRID

Sarah Elizabeth

Tpr. Carl W. and Rebecca L. Bone
Troop C

Allison Marie

Cpl. Brent J. and Jamell M. Drummond
Troop F

Aidan Lawrence

CVO Sprv. I Michael L. and Kimberly S. Dayringer
Troop A

NEW EMPLOYEES

Photo
Not
Available

Pamela L. Cooseman
DE I
Troop C



Bethany L. Crocker
Crim. Hist. Spec. I
Q/CRID



Gerald D. Leigh
Prob. Radio Personnel
Troop D



Barbara A. Miller
DE I
Troop H



Matthew W. Owens
Crim. Hist. Spec. I
Q/CRID



Lisa Wehmeyer
Accountant III
Q/BPD

AED Could Save A Life

By MVI III Charles G. McMillan, Troop D

What would you do if a person in your workplace collapsed from a heart attack and you were there?

Most cardiac arrest victims are in ventricular fibrillation. This is an abnormal heart rhythm that prevents the heart from pumping blood. Ventricular fibrillation causes more cardiac arrests than any other rhythm. You need to defibrillate the person's heart within the first five minutes of a cardiac arrest for them to have a 50 percent chance of survival. So, you can see how important it is to have properly trained people on the scene quickly and with the right equipment.

Troop D has become the first troop in the state to receive an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Elizabeth Turner, a nurse from St. John's Hospital, provided certification training for the first class at Troop D. The class included: Radio Personnel Todd M. Cooper, Sergeant George F. Knowles, Cpl. Jason M. Pace, MVI III Charles G. McMillan, Radio Personnel William "Bill" S. Conner, Prob. Radio Personnel Kelly L. Bowman, Sergeant Larry D. Wolters, Sergeant David A. Callaway, Prob. Radio Personnel Eric B. Douglas and Sergeant Daniel F. Nash.

More classes are anticipated, so there will be a trained person on duty 24/7 at the headquarters.



DEATHS

David J. Gower



David J. Gower, 75, of Poplar Bluff, died Thursday, April 13, 2006, at the Hunter Acres Care Center in Sikeston.

Gower, the son of the late David J. and Sarah (Sloan) Gower Sr., was born Aug. 27, 1930, in Oran. He attended the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Gower was retired from the maintenance department of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Gower was a veteran of the United States Air Force, having served

during the Korean Conflict. For his service he received a Korean Service Medal, a United Nations Service Medal, a National Defense Service Medal, as well as a Good Conduct Medal. Gower enjoyed spending time with his family, working on cars, gardening, hunting, and fishing.

On Jan. 5, 1957, he married Frances Lee Magill in Mississippi. She survives. Other survivors include three daughters, Carol Gaines and her husband, Bradley, of Ocean Springs, MS; Cheryl Williams and her husband, Ronnie, of Poplar Bluff; and Teresa Wertenberger, also of Poplar Bluff; a son, Rickey Gower and his wife, Serena, of Poplar Bluff; nine grandchildren: John Gower, Sarah Bailey, Heather Allen, Rickey Gower Jr., Robert Williams, A.J. Wertenberger, Bill Wertenberger, Amelia Gaines, and Brian Gaines; three great-grandchildren: Alyssa Bailey, Kayla Allen, and Savannah Bailey; two sisters: Dorothy Stout and Mary

Hornbeck, both of Poplar Bluff; and a brother, James Gower, of Poplar Bluff.

(Reprinted with permission from the Daily American Republic, Poplar Bluff, MO.)

Carl J. Hucke Jr.



Carl J. Hucke Jr. went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Monday May 8, 2006, surrounded by his family.

THE MASTERS: ELECTIONS, DONATIONS

The MASTERS held their annual meeting on April 29, 2006, in Columbia, in conjunction with the Highway Patrol Awards Ceremony. At this meeting, the following directors were elected to serve as officers for the upcoming year:

President Jack Pahlmann
West Plains

Vice President Doug Libla
Poplar Bluff

Secretary Dr. Wes Stricker
Columbia

Treasurer Jamie Holstein
Springfield

The board welcomes Mr. Ron Gillett, of Moberly, who was elected to

fill the unexpired term of Mr. Rush Johnson, who died unexpectedly in July 2005.

The Rosciglione family recently held a second annual benefit in memory of J.P. Rosciglione, who lost his life in a hit and run accident in St. Louis County on February 4, 2005. This benefit raised more than \$8,200, which was donated to The MASTERS in honor of J.P. The MASTERS is very grateful to the Rosciglione family for this contribution.

Corporal Michael E. Broniec, Troop C, organized a benefit, which was held in Fenton, MO, on June 3. The MASTERS member, Scott Knight, of Rain Tunnel Car Wash Express, donated his car wash for the day to make this event possible. Other sponsors were Old Tyme Produce, Florissant Mayor Robert G. Lowery Sr., Cardinal Towing Ser-

vice, and Goldmark Enterprises Inc. The fund-raiser consisted of car washes, T-shirts, fun, food, and prizes. The event raised over \$10,500 which was kindly donated to The MASTERS. A special thanks to Cpl. Broniec, Scott Knight, the sponsors, and the many others who assisted, donated, and participated in this event in any way.

The MASTERS vanity license plates are now available to MASTERS members. If you are interested in obtaining these plates, please call The MASTERS office at 573-686-1619 or e-mail: the mastersmo@hotmail.com for an application. Also, we have shirts and caps with The MASTERS logo. Contact the office for a brochure, if you are interested.

DEATHS

Capt. Huckle spent his entire 36-year career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol in Troop C, Kirkwood. He retired in 1984 as commander of Troop C.

Capt. Huckle is survived by his wife: Judith Huckle (nee Van Nice); children: Ann and her husband, Michael G. Brown, and Kathleen and her husband, Tony; grandchildren: Jennifer and her husband, Trent, Susan Spellmeyer, Angela and her husband, Nathan, and Kurt and his wife, Melissa, cousin, Patricia Gerst; and eight great-grandchildren.

The family prefers donations be made to the National Parkinson Foundation, the Alzheimer's Association, or the charity of your choice.

The Patrol family extends its heartfelt sympathy to the Huckle family.

Carl E. Potts



Carl E. Potts, having worked at GHQ for many years, had many stories to share. One he used to tell was about when K.K. Johnson would routinely ride his horse to GHQ and tie it up at the back door while he read the newspaper. He also remembered having to "put up" hay on the back hillside as part of his Patrol work assignment.

Carl served under 11 different colonels, the first one being Hugh H. Waggoner. To put it in perspective, Carl was here to see the construction of almost all of the troops.

His dedication was evident in that he used less than two days of sick leave each and every year he was at the Patrol. He quietly completed his daily assignments and would do whatever was

asked of him. We could always count on Carl to follow a daily routine and get his assignments completed without ever having to be concerned about the quality of his work. On those snowy, cold days, Carl would be at GHQ by 4:30 a.m. to start shoveling sidewalks and parking lots to make each safer for the rest of us.

Before Carl retired, he was asked what he would miss the most about the MSHP. He replied, "Mowing grass, shoveling snow, and trimming." When we then asked him again to define what he would *miss* the most, to make sure we were clear with our question, he replied, "Mowing grass, shoveling snow, and trimming." During retirement, Carl stated he intended on fishing, taking care of nine acres of land, watching baseball and golf, and spending time with his only grandchild at the time.

Even after retirement, Carl continually worked for the Patrol, as a 1,000-hour employee. We hope he enjoyed those other "real" retirement hobbies in his free time. When he died, he was doing one of those things he said he'd miss the most ... trimming ... something he loved to do. He was the definition of a wonderful employee and will be missed by each of us.

"Carl was quiet, hardworking, and very loyal to the MSHP," remembers Clerk Typist III Lurinda Dickson, Q/PIED. "Carl was always willing to help, regardless of what you asked him to do. Those jobs were not always pleasant ones ... such as, cleaning up after a sick child in the PIED theater! Even if you needed him to do something, and it wasn't a rush job, he would do it right then anyway. I was glad I could depend on Carl for his help whenever needed in the Safety Education Center.

Although quiet, once Carl got to know me, we conversed quite often. I always enjoyed seeing the grin on his face when we talked about something funny. Carl was my co-worker and friend. I will miss him and his grin!"

Carl died May 12, 2006, at the age of 62. He was born on October 18, 1942, in Fulton, MO, to Carl Wesley and

Mary Jane (Roark) Potts. On June 21, 1975, he married Elizabeth Marie "Betty" Eiken, who survives. Carl was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Taos.

He is also survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Janice and John Samson; his son and daughter-in-law, Jeffrey and Michelle Potts; three grandchildren: Brooke Samson, Skylar Potts, and Paige Dooling; one brother (Robert); and four sisters (Bettie, Bonnie, Norma, and Faye). He was preceded in death by two sisters (Mary and Eileen).

Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 1653, Topeka, KS 66601-1653.

The Patrol family extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family of Carl E. Potts.

(Editor's note: Thank you to the Construction Maintenance Division for providing this article.)

Norman L. Eader



Dec. 18, 1915 — May 18, 2006

Norman joined the Patrol in December 1941. After serving as a trooper in Kirkwood and St. Joseph, in 1949, he was assigned to Troop H, Cameron. Norman worked there from 1949 to 1967 as sergeant, and served as a respected mentor and guide to many troopers in Cameron and the surrounding towns. Cameron was then a small community, and everyone in town knew "Sarge" Eader as a local leader in law

Continued on the next page.

DEATHS

— Eader

Continued from page 33.

enforcement. In 1967, Norman was promoted to lieutenant and was transferred to Troop A, Lee's Summit. He later retired from the force in 1970.

For Norman and Mary, his wife for 62 years, retirement meant only a change in jobs. They moved to Table Rock Lake and lived near Branson (before it became the new Nashville). Norman had been an electrician in the Navy, and was a self-taught carpenter of some skill. He and Mary designed four homes on the lake, and Norman built one of them single-handedly from the ground up.

But Norman's true profession was law enforcement. He and Mary returned to Cameron in 1976. Because he was remembered and widely respected there as a patrolman, Norman was appointed chief of police, and again found himself on the right side of the law. He finally retired for good in 1980,

and he and Mary then moved to southern Texas.

Norman's eldest son, Marvin, was afflicted with Down's syndrome, and Norman and Mary devoted a lot of time and energy to helping retarded children. Even after Marvin's death in 1981, they sought out special education schools in Texas and put on shows to entertain the kids.

Mary died in Texas in 2003. In his last years, Norman spoke often of Mary and Marvie, and he joined them in May of this year. All three are remembered with love by Norman's surviving children, Dee and Bill.

(Editor's note: Our sincere appreciation to Mr. Bill Eader for sending this article to the Patrol News. The Patrol family offers its heartfelt sympathy to the Eader family.)

Thank You

My family and I express gratitude and thanks to everyone for the cards, thoughts, and prayers during the difficult time of the death of my sister, DeLoris Ann Heflin. The thoughtfulness expressed by everyone is much appreciated. Thank you, again, and God bless you all.

Ret. RTT 1st Class G.R. "Ike" Eickholt and family

• • •

My family and I would like to thank everyone for the cards and acts of sympathy during the loss of my grandmother. It truly helped us through this difficult period of time.

MVI Sprv. Eric W. Gibson, Troop D

• • •

We wish to thank all of the Highway Patrol family for your many kind prayers, thoughts, and deeds extended to our family during the recent loss of our son, Lane. It is the strong support from friends like you that makes difficult times like this bearable and allows us to carry on.

Ret. Cpl. Lloyd and Martha Vitt and family.

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:

Tech. Support Mgr. Ruth A. Niblack (Q/ISD) – brother
Cpl. Travis W. Hitchcock (F) – grandmother
Telecom. Elizabeth A. Roush (H) – father
Radio Personnel Christopher R. Nicholson (H) – grandfather
Cpl. Patrick E. Leonard (C) – father
Traffic Safety Analyst II Mandy A. Kliethermes (Q/TFD) – grandmother
DE II Katie L. Hoover (D) – father
Lt. Robert H. Rothrock (D) – mother-in-law
CVO Steve D. Wilmesherr (C) – father
Ret. CTE Joe D. Kearse – mother-in-law
Cpl. Brian D. Holcomb (Q/GD) – grandfather

Cpl. John P. Gassen (A) – mother
CVO Sprv. II Gerald W. Johnson (H) – grandmother
Ret. Sgt. Lawrence D. Long – brother-in-law
Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED) – uncle
Ret. AFIS Entry Oper. III Charles S. Long – brother-in-law
Info. Analyst II Melita L. Sloan (Q/ISD) – uncle
MVI Sprv. Gary W. Stockton (D) – father
Tpr. Andrew A. Henry (H) – mother-in-law
CTE Dennis M. McCarthy (A) – father
DE III Thomas A. Talarski (C) – son
Ret. Cpl. Lloyd A. Vitt – son

September

September 4
September 14



September 15



September 21



September 22



- **Labor Day**
- **Act establishing the Missouri State Highway Patrol became effective in 1931.**
- **Tpr. C.P. Corbin died in 1943.**
- **Tpr. R.J. Kolilis died in 1988.**
- **Tpr. D.K. Floyd died in 2005.**



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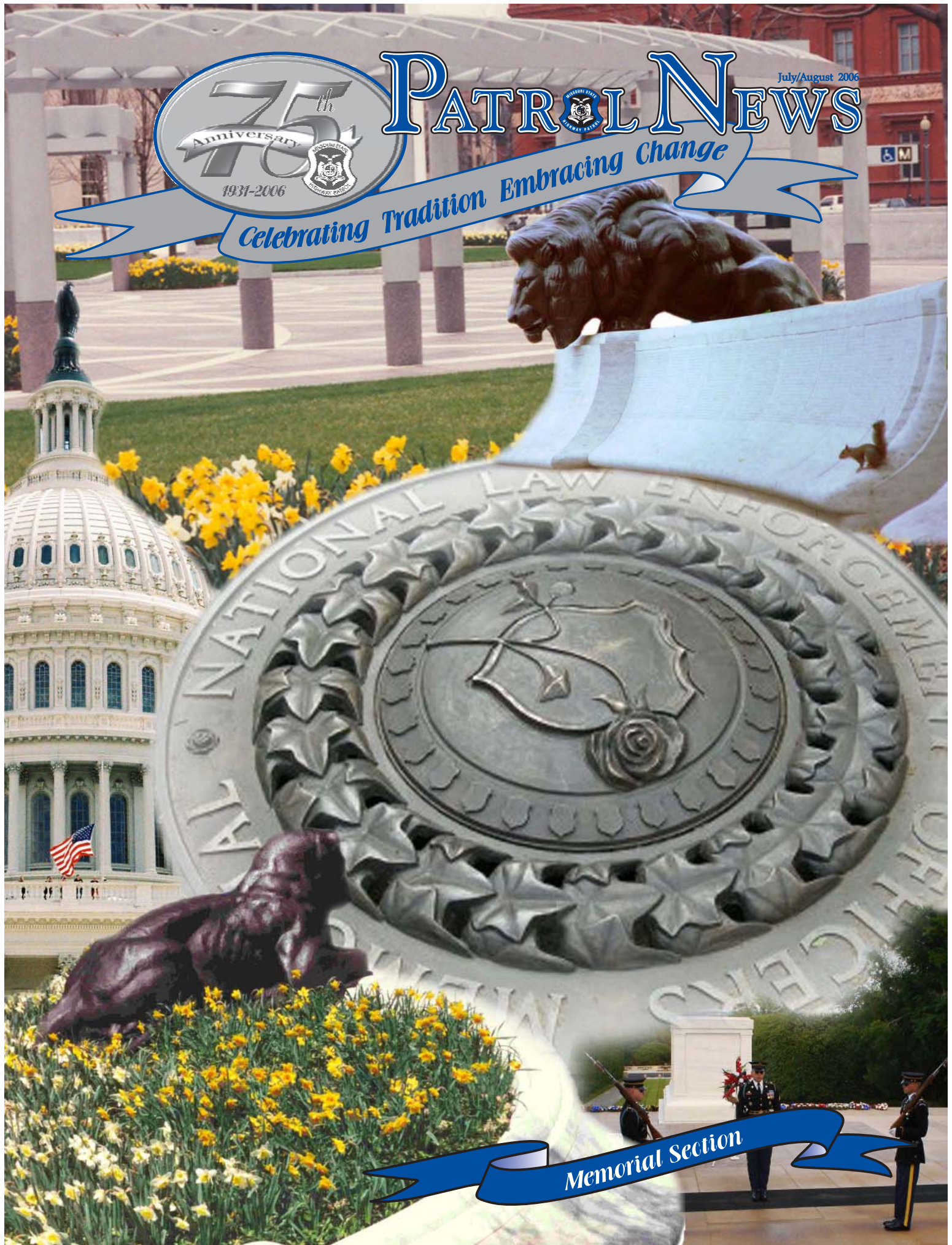
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PATROL NEWS

July/August 2006

Celebrating Tradition Embracing Change



Memorial Section

Superintendent's Message

Colonel Roger D. Stottlemeyer



During the month of May each year, National Police Week is recognized throughout the nation, and memorial activities are held in Washington, D.C. This year was my first opportunity to attend this honorable and very moving event. Sadly, it was also a time to add the names of Sergeant C. Dewayne Graham Jr., Trooper Ralph C. Tatoian, Corporal J.A. "Jay" Sampietro Jr., and Trooper D. Kevin Floyd to the memorial wall. The year 2005 still remains a nightmare in my memory.

Thankfully, several family members, co-workers, and friends of our fallen heroes were able to attend National Police Week activities. The National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund held a very moving candlelight vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial to honor the 155 law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty during 2005. Well over 20,000 people were in attendance at the vigil this year.

On Monday, May 15, the 25th annual National Peace Officers Memorial Service was held on the west lawn of the United States Capitol. President George W. Bush addressed the crowd. He then spent approximately the next two hours walking through the group of surviving family members offering personal condolences and comfort to most survivors in attendance.

Following the memorial service, a wreath, adorned with flowers presented by survivors representing each fallen officer, was taken to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial where it was placed ceremonially, and kept under watch by an honor guard until midnight.

The candlelight vigil and memorial service are two of the many activities that take place during National Police Week. Thousands of families of fallen officers, fellow officers, and friends travel to our nation's capitol for grief seminars, fellowship with others who have experienced similar losses, and inspirational activities which, it is hoped, help each and every attendee experience some healing of the pain they suffer.

We owe a great deal of gratitude to the Concerns of Police Survivors Inc. (COPS) and their executive director, Suzie Sawyer, who are always there for our surviving families. Today, COPS has more than 15,000 families that are members, as well as 50 chapters across the country that offer help through numerous programs throughout the year.

We must always remember our fallen officers and their families in our thoughts and prayers. We will remain thankful for their lives and grateful for their sacrifices.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. D. Stottlemeyer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PATROL NEWS

July/August 2006

"75 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"

Volume XLI • Number 1A

Memorial Section

This special section is part of the *July/August 2006 Patrol News*, the employee publication of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.



The MASTERS' Mission: Reaching Out To Families In Need

By President Jack Pahlmann
The MASTERS

The house in rural Texas County was not difficult to find. A large number of Patrol cars and personal vehicles filled the driveway as well as the yard. Small clusters of friends and family stood outside as Captain Billy G. Chadwick, commander of Troop G, and I arrived at the home. Fewer than 24 hours had passed since Trooper Kevin Floyd was killed by a motorist while performing a routine traffic stop. Sadly, this was the second time I was to perform my job as a director of The MASTERS.

The first visit to Mrs. Floyd was a quick one. Inside the home were a number of family members and friends of the Floyds. I found Mrs. Floyd at the kitchen table with her parents and children, and gave her a check from The MASTERS to use as she saw fit. I gave her and her children a few words expressing my sorrow and my assurance that I would return within a week or two,

so we could analyze her financial situation. After visiting for a while with Corporal Jeff Kinder, a close friend of the Floyds, Captain Chadwick and I returned to Willow Springs.

On my return visit, Mrs. Floyd had assembled her immediate household expenses, which were paid by The MASTERS. We will also make primary residence mortgage payments over the years up to an amount of \$50,000. Should her children, Jacob and Telena, wish to go to college, we will be there to provide assistance. The MASTERS also provided financial assistance for the family's trip in May 2006, to Washington, D.C., to attend the National Law Enforcement Memorial's service.

We at The MASTERS have performed this sad duty 16 times since we were formed in 1979. But, we do receive a degree of satisfaction by being able to provide our services to a family in their greatest time of need.

To date, more than \$739,500 has been given by The MASTERS in support of Patrol families. Of this amount,

\$139,000 has been for college scholarships (13 children), \$297,000 has been for rent/mortgage payments, and \$303,500 has been for funeral expenses, current bills, and debts other than mortgages.

We currently have about 1,020 members—within the state of Missouri, as well as from other states. We encourage Patrol members to join our organization upon your retirement, as many of you have. Our finances are strong, even with the unfortunate events of 2005.

Of the organizations I belong to, The MASTERS ranks as the best. I am extremely proud to be a member, director, and the current president of The MASTERS. I am proud of you, the members of the Patrol, who go about your daily duties protecting us. I know many of those duties you perform, while they are very important, are unseen by us. Please be careful out there. Our directors aren't lazy, but we hate to work.

Never Let Them Walk Alone

By *Cpl. Al P. Nothum, Troop C*

On May 15, 2006, I had the great opportunity of attending the 25th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service in Washington, DC. The memorial service was held on the front lawn of the United States Capitol. This event was well attended by 22 members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol and the California Highway Patrol each lost four officers during 2005. This is the highest number of officers killed in the line of duty among all the law enforcement agencies in the United States and Puerto Rico. It is an honor we hope and pray we never achieve again on the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

A year ago last April, during the funeral of Trooper Ralph C. Tatoian, the gravesite service had just ended after the last call for Tpr. Tatoian. As I was making my way to my patrol car, I met with Colonel Roger D. Stottlemire as he was standing underneath a large, oak tree. It was just several feet from where Ralph was laid to rest. At first, I could not see Col. Stottlemire's face as he had his head cover on and his head bowed. As he lifted up his head, I could see the tears streaming down his face and falling onto his bright, blue Patrol uniform.

He shook my hand, sobbing, and said, "I don't think I can go through this again. This is just too hard to do."

Little did he know he would receive two more phone calls bearing tragic news ... one on August 17, and the second on September 22, 2006.

In 2005, the Missouri State Highway Patrol lost four officers: Sgt. C. Dewayne Graham Jr., Trooper D. Kevin Floyd, Trooper Ralph C. Tatoian, and Cpl. John A. "Jay" Sampietro Jr. Each one of these men gave their lives, so the rest of us do not have to live in fear.

We will be eternally grateful for the sacrifice each of these men made.

At the National Law Enforcement Memorial, etched into the cold, gray stone near the names of all the fallen officers is this quote, **"The Wicked Flee When No Man Pursueth: But The Righteous Are Bold As A Lion."** As you approach the wall, and start reading the names of police officers killed in the line of duty, and begin reading the letters left behind by loved ones and friends, you are overwhelmed with so many feelings. Family members and friends of the fallen officers place pictures and gifts for their fallen loved ones next to their names.

As we entered into the plaza where the memorial walls begin, it was already dark. I was anxious and felt an urgency to locate the names of all of our fallen officers. As I approached the wall, my attention was drawn immediately to a picture of three small children. The picture was placed neatly in a clear, plastic, freezer bag. A short letter was placed in the bag next to the picture. The bag, containing the picture and letter, was taped next to the name of an officer from the Los Angeles County Police Department. He was shot and killed while on a traffic stop. As I began to read the short letter, a woman walked up to me and said, in a very soft, almost reverent voice, "Did you know my husband?"

I told her I did not know her husband, but I was drawn to his name, because of the picture of the three small girls. I also told her I was a Missouri state trooper. She

told me the three young girls in the picture are her daughters. I immediately apologized to her for reading the very personal note she and her daughters wrote to their father and husband.

She then said something to me I will never forget, "The letter was for you, too. You and my husband were brothers."

It was at this time the mood was set for me for the rest of my visit to Washington, DC.

In the darkness, when I had first seen the names of Carl D. Graham, Ralph C. Tatoian, John A. Sampietro Jr., and D. Kevin Floyd, it seemed to me their names were lost on the cold, damp stone, mixed in with thousands of other names of officers I never knew. It did not seem right that the agency they were employed with at the time of their death was not next to their names. There was just a name etched in cold, damp, dark gray stone. It was only after I spoke to the widow of that Los Angeles County Police Officer I realized Ralph, Dewayne, Jay, and Kevin are not alone. Their names are not scattered among faceless names. They are forever with hundreds of "brothers"—a band of brothers forever. It is our duty to remember and honor our fallen brothers and sisters, and to remember we are a family.



Jay Chose To Live Life

By Mrs. 584, Jennifer Sampietro

Editor's note: Mrs. Jennifer Sampietro spoke at a Law Enforcement Memorial Service at Grace Assembly of God on May 5, 2006, in Springfield, MO. She is graciously sharing her message from that service.

"I am honored to be here today ... to be able to talk a little about Jay and the kind of wonderful person he is. There are so many things about Jay I would like to share, but it would take days. So, I will only tell about a few things that exemplify why Jay was so special and why he means so much to me.

The first time I met Jay, he walked into the room and I noticed a certain sense of style and grace about him. The moment we met we both knew we were meant to be together. Eleven months later we were married.

Jay was so full of life and love. He was the kind of person who could make you feel good about yourself: He would make you feel important. Jay had this energy about him that would pull you into his world, which was a truly nice place to be. He had an amazing sense of humor and loved to make people laugh—sometimes to tears.

Jay accomplished more in his 36 years than most people do in a lifetime. He set goals for himself and completed them. If you knew Jay and his work ethic, you knew there was nothing he wouldn't tackle. Now, knowing Jay like I do, I'm sure when he went to the coffee shop and met his fellow zone mates, he would rub it in a little when he made arrests ... as they all did!

But knowing him like I do, I can tell you it wasn't about numbers to Jay. It was about the contact. Good or bad, Jay tried to make a difference in the lives of people he came across, and he was sincerely interested in their life stories, in addition to the professionalism that made him an outstanding officer. The blue "fit him well".

While he was proud of his work, Jay's biggest accomplishments in life were me, Matt, and Will. We were the most important thing in the world to

him, as he is to us. Jay was my husband and best friend, and a wonderful father to our sons. There are no words that could ever describe the heartbreak, loneliness, and pain of losing someone that you are still so much in love with. The bonds that we shared are still so strong, and they are unbreakable.

I have put my faith in God, who has blessed us with these two boys who are every bit of their dad, who bring goodness into the world. They are an imprint of their dad. Often, I would watch Jay as he slept and think to myself, "How does someone get to be like you?" I knew him better than anyone else in the world, but he still fascinated and amazed me.

Recently, I heard my pastor, Bob Long, say something during service that helped me understand Jay even more than I already did. He said that there are no certainties in life. As I stand here today, and look around this room, I realize we all have something in common. We all have the same destiny that no medicine or doctor can change. We all will die one day, so you have to take life as it is and live each day to the fullest. That's when I realized, Jay got it, he really lived life.

Jay and I made a promise to each other several years back. If something should ever happen to one of us, we would come back and watch over the other. Jay and I never broke a promise to each other and there is no mountain we can't climb to reach one another; not even time can truly separate us. One day, after keeping our promise, we will unite in eternal life.

I would like to read you a little bit from a story about a dragonfly, one I often read to Matt and Will, because it reminds me of our promise and the boys can relate to it.

"A group of water bugs was talking one day about how they saw other water bugs climb up a lily pad and disappear from sight. They wondered where the other bugs could have gone. They promised one another that if one of them ever went up the lily pad and disappeared, it would come back and tell the others where it had gone.

About a week later one of the water bugs climbed up the lily pad and emerged

on the other side. As it sat there, it transformed into a dragonfly. Its body took on an iridescent sheen, and four beautiful wings sprouted from its back. The dragonfly flapped its wings and took off in flight, doing loops and spins throughout the sunlit sky. In the midst of its joyful flight, it remembered the promise it had made to return and tell the other bugs where it had gone. So, the dragonfly swooped down to the surface of the water and tried to re-enter the water. But, try as it would, it could not return.

The dragonfly said to itself, 'Well, I tried to keep my promise, but even if I did return, the others wouldn't recognize me in my new, glorious body. I guess they will just have to wait until they climb the lily pad to find out where I have gone and what I have become.'

These last eight months have been a struggle and there are going to be several milestones in my life and the lives of our boys. But, with my faith in God, I have to believe in the end that all of the struggle and heartbreak will be worth the wait.

I would like to share one last thing with you today. I have come to realize something that has taken quite awhile to see. For all of us who are grieving, I truly know that it's not easy and that there really are no words. But, we all must realize God gives us choices in our lives. We can decide to be bitter for the cards we have been dealt for the rest of our lives ... cheating ourselves out of our memories and time with our children. Or, we can choose to endure the struggle and milestones ahead of us, and realize that this world is not a perfect world ... If it was, our loved ones would still be with us.

I have chosen to try to live my life to the fullest, just as Jay did. He would not want it any other way. I choose to live out every single one of the dreams Jay and I once dreamed.

I would like to say one last thing to Matt and Will, "Boys your daddy is a hero!"

Missouri Mourns

Four Troopers Added To Memorial

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

On Saturday, May 6, at 10 a.m., law enforcement officers, friends, and family of those killed in the line of duty gathered to honor and remember loved ones. Clouds floated overhead off and on throughout the service, which seemed fitting. This was not the first Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial Service I've attended. But, each time, the service has meant more ... has affected me more. As each department processed to the front with their wreath, one noticed the reverence and professionalism of the escorts. While the Missouri State Highway Patrol mourned four officers killed in the line of duty in 2005, and 27 officers killed since 1931, the Columbia Police Department was mourning its first officer killed in the line of duty—Molly Bowden. Whether the line of duty death occurred decades ago or months ago, each family's grief was felt by those present. The ceremony included every tribute possible—wreaths, riderless horse, bagpipes and drums, color guard,



The Missouri LEM Ceremony began with Troop F's honor guard presenting the colors. They were (l to r) Tpr. Richard R. Dowd, Sgt. Vince S. Rice, Cpl. C. Joey Day, and Cpl. Ronald D. Kyle.

flyover, roll call, volleys, flowers—as a sign of respect and appreciation for the sacrifice of these officers. With each speaker, each part of the service, Mis-

souri paid tribute to its heroes in law enforcement.

At events like these, pictures can often convey what words cannot.



The "pipes and drums" offered a tribute to all of Missouri's fallen heroes during the ceremony.



Young Tyler Newton places a flower in memory of his father, fallen hero Tpr. Michael L. Newton.



Mrs. Deborah Tatoian adds a flower to the memorial wreath in honor of her husband's sacrifice. Tpr. Ralph C. Tatoian died in the line of duty in 2005.



Missouri's law enforcement officers act as an "honor guard" for their department's wreath.



Columbia Police Department officers carry their department's wreath to the memorial in memory of Officer Molly Bowden, who died in the line of duty in 2005.



Mrs. Jennifer Sampietro honors the memory of her husband, Cpl. Jay Sampietro, who died in the line of duty in 2005.



Capt. Billy Chadwick (left) and Tpr. Al Jones (right) escort Kevin Floyd's family to the memorial wreath.

Sgt. C. Dewayne Graham Jr.: 24th Row, 52nd Panel

By Associate Editor Michelle Friedrich,
Daily American Republic

The name of the Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper gunned down in his Van Buren driveway was among 155 recently added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. A 12-year veteran of the Highway Patrol, Sgt. Carl Dewayne Graham Jr., 37, was found dead March 20, 2005, outside his residence, located in a hollow off Highway M, about three miles north of U.S. Highway 60. He was still in uniform, and had just arrived home after completing his tour of duty for the day.

Sgt. Graham's name is found on the 24th row of the 52nd panel on the memorial's west side, according to his father, Carl Graham Sr. of Dexter. Representing Sgt. Graham at a candlelight vigil held in downtown Washington at Judiciary Square were his father; his son, Hayden; Hayden's mother, Tammy Ogden; Patrol Sgt. Craig Ponder; and Patrol Superintendent Roger Stottlemire and his wife, Connie.

The vigil, sponsored by Concerns for Police Survivors (COPS), was held May 20 as part of National Police Week and remembered all the fallen officers who died in 2005. It was held at the National Law Enforcement Officers Me-

Haden Graham, Tammy Ogden, and Sgt. Craig Ponder talk with one of many volunteer officers during National Police Week.

morial, which is where the panels of names are engraved.

"There were 155 of us (families) there," Graham said. "They have deputies, highway patrol, city officers from across the country included in the memorial."

Graham estimated as many at 15,000 to 20,000 people attended the vigil. "The whole thing was full; people were everywhere," he said. "There was not standing room left. Everyone filled it



up; they were standing in the streets.

"Everyone was holding a candle. ... They lit one candle and from it, all the rest were lit. It was a beautiful sight."

The speakers included Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and the COPS president. It was while attending the vigil that Sgt. Graham's family got to see his name for the first time.

"We went back the next day and etched off bunches of pieces of papers and took pictures," Graham said.

Graham, Ogden, and Ponder also took Hayden for some sight-seeing that day. They toured the Capitol and went through its museum, as well as the two different Smithsonian museums. On May 22, the families loaded onto buses and were taken to the U.S. Capitol where a ceremony with President George W. Bush serving as the keynote speaker was held on the lawn.

When the buses arrived, "all you could see is a hillside covered with police officers," Graham said. As they made their way to their seats, officers were standing "four and five deep," he said. "Everyone was standing at attention and saluting." Graham had difficulty finding the words to express the sight. "For country folks from Southeast Missouri, this was tall," he said.

The president, Graham said, spoke for about 25 minutes. "He had all the right words in it," he said.

After the president completed his

Continued on the next page.



C. Dewayne Graham Jr.'s name can be found on the 24th row of the 52nd panel.

Hayden Graham makes a "rubbing" of his father's name with help from his mother, Tammy Ogden.



—Graham

Continued from page 8.



Carl D. Graham Sr. lifts his grandson, so he can add a flower to the memorial wreath.

speech, he “went through the ceremony” where he pinned a blue carnation in the center of a wreath, which was an empty star.

“Before he left, he came down in the crowd for an hour and 20 minutes, talking to everybody,” Graham explained. “That’s when we got to talk to him. When he approached us, he walked up and grabbed my hand. I said ‘Mr. President, my name is Graham. I’m from Missouri. I lost a son. He was his dad. He wants to shake your hand.’”

Hayden shook hands with the president, who also rubbed his head, Graham said.

“When he turned back, I said ‘Mr. President, I want to let you know we supported you all the way through since you first started. If there was an election tomorrow, I’d vote for you again,’” Graham said. “He chuckled and went to the next family.”

Graham said he tried to explain to Hayden that he probably won’t ever “shake another (president’s) hand, but you did this time.”

After the president departed, the families were called one by one to meet their escort—for Graham and Hayden it was Sgt. Ponder—and march down the center aisle. When they got down front, “I picked (Hayden) up to let him have the carnation and let him pin it on the wreath,” Graham explained.

Then, Hayden and his grandfather each were presented with medals of valor. Missouri State Highway Patrol Troopers Ralph C. Tatoian and Donald “Kevin” Floyd, and Cpl. John A. “Jay” Sampietro, who all were killed in the line of duty in 2005, also were remembered.

“The other families were there; we were all sitting there together,” Graham said.

Once the last carnation was pinned, the wreath was taken to Judiciary Square to be placed at the memorial, he said.

“When we left with those 14 buses full of people, there was a 200-motorcycle motorcade in front of us,” Graham said. White Chevrolet Blazers, representing the U.S.

Marshal Service, Secret Service, FBI, and Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, flanked each side of the buses, he said.

“They closed both sides of the street off for us,” Graham said. “It was quite a sight ... all those motorcycles in front, lights flashing on both sides of us and in front of us. It was something. I’ll never see it again.”

During the week, Graham said, classes were offered to help the families cope. Although Hayden, who will turn six on June 6, didn’t get to attend, there was an FBI academy for the children, he said. “They take them through the FBI Academy and tell them in their (children’s) language what they do and what they can do after their dad is gone.”

In the year since his son’s death, Graham said, he has been reminded how the Highway Patrol takes care of

its own, “even at times when you don’t think about it.”

Graham said he and his wife debated about what to do on the first anniversary of his son’s death. “We didn’t want to stay home (but) ended up hanging around the house,” he said.

At about 2:30 p.m. there was a knock at the door, it was a delivery of a floral wreath from the Highway Patrol. “At the right times, they let you know they don’t forget,” he said.

Graham also attended a ceremony when his son’s name was placed on the Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial wall in Jefferson City. On behalf of the family, he said, he was presented with a state flag and a plaque from Gov. Matt Blunt saying the flag was “flown the day he fell.”

Graham said he also was given a set of collar brass celebrating the Patrol’s 75th anniversary, with “my son’s badge number”.

In honor of the Patrol’s anniversary, Graham said, 75 commemorative shotguns are being made. One side of the stock displays the name of Sgt. Ben Booth, who was the first trooper killed in the line of duty, his badge number, a motorcycle and a Model A Ford Roadster. The other side shows a Ford Crown Victoria with four troopers saluting a flag, Graham said.

“That cruiser has my boy’s badge number,” he said. “They chose him to put on the commemorative gun. Since my son’s badge number was used, they’re letting me have one,” he said. Graham said he considers that quite an honor. “I’ll never show them (the Patrol) enough appreciation (for all they have done),” he said.

(Reprinted with permission from the Poplar Bluff Daily American Republic, May 30, 2006.)



President George W. Bush talks with Hayden Graham and Carl D. Graham Sr.

My Adventures In Washington, D.C.

By Ralph A. Tatoian Jr.

When I got off the plane, a whole bunch of honor guards were saluting us. They took us to get our luggage, and then outside to get on buses to go to our hotel. It was really cool, because the police motorcycles escorted us with lights and sirens all the way to the hotel. When I got to the hotel, it was huge ... bigger than most hotels I have ever seen. In my room there was a big window with a beautiful view. I could see and hear the other families being escorted to the hotel. It was neat to watch the escorts.

My mom took me to sign up for classes, and me and my sister and brother got balloons and a bunch of cool stuff like movies, books, and badges—all for free. All week there were lots of police at the hotel and everywhere we went. They would stop and talk to us. Some of them even gave me badges and pins from their police departments.

I went to classes where I got to meet other kids who lost their dads in the line of duty. We got to learn about different states, play games, and talk about our dads. One day we got to go to this place where there were kittens and canine dogs. The trainers taught us about the dogs and let us touch the dogs. Afterward, they gave us trading cards of the canine dogs, and I thought that was really neat.

On Sunday night, we went to the national monument where I saw my dad's name on the wall. They had a laser show

that showed a big blue map all above us, and then it turned into the thin blue line. Everybody was holding candles, and it was really cool, because everywhere I looked all I could see was candlelight.

On Monday morning, we went to the memorial on the Capitol lawn. There were a lot of families there. I wore my trooper uniform and took pictures with Col. Stottlemyre. He was really nice to me, and I showed him my canine cards.

When my mom put the flower in the wreath, I stood with Lt. Kenley and we saluted. I got to meet President George W. Bush and take pictures with him, too. I told him I voted for him in the weekly reader, and he thanked me for my vote. The coolest part was when President Bush signed his name on the inside of my trooper hat. After the memorial, we went to the park where I got to play with my new friends, climb a giant rock, and



Ralph Tatoian Jr. stands with Colonel Roger D. Stottlemyre.



President George W. Bush poses with (from left) Samantha, Ralph Jr., and Deborah Tatoian.

ride motorcycles with the Blue Angels.

On Tuesday, we came home. I wish my dad were here, so I could tell him about everything we did. But, sometimes I get to talk to his friends from the Highway Patrol and I tell them about it. I miss my dad. When I grow up, I will be a Missouri state trooper just like my dad.



Lt. Lee Ann Kenley escorts the Tatoian family (Deborah, Ralph Jr., Samantha, and Max) during the memorial ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Families Shown Respect, Care In D.C.

By Sgt. Al Raetz, Troop D

We arrived at the airport in Washington, D.C., a little late. When we (the Sampietro family and I) got off the plane, we saw four uniformed officers waiting for the Sampietro family. I don't recall where the officers were from, but it was more than one department.

These officers took us down to the baggage claim area and handled transporting our luggage to the shuttle bus waiting outside for our (Sampietro) group. We were already impressed, but it was even more impressive when we got on the shuttle bus and saw eight to 10 motorcycle officers in front of our shuttle.

Again, this was done just for the Sampietro family, as they escorted us to our hotel with red lights and sirens. This same routine was carried out for every surviving family when they arrived at the airport. Traffic stopped and people on the street looked as we went by. They really made the families feel like dignitaries.

The next four or five days were filled with the many seminars available to the surviving families. They had one day where only the surviving children went on a field trip. Many of these seminars and classes were there for assisting the families. From the obvious, such as, "how to cope with grief, anger, etc." to "how to handle finances". There were "therapy" classes for the children as well.

The candlelight vigil was quite moving. There were several speakers and police officers from around the world. When the time came to hold up the candles, you could see a lot of tears. All the survivors and fellow officers held up the candles in honor of their fallen officers from 2005.

The actual memorial service was a long day. We boarded the buses at 8 a.m. and arrived at the Capitol at around 9 a.m. The service started at 12 p.m., and was highlighted by the presence of President George W. Bush, who also gave a short speech. The rather unique part was when the president was done speaking, he went down from the stage and greeted, hugged, kissed, signed programs, had picture's taken, and basically anything else the surviving families asked. This went on for approximately two hours. The last part of the service was the hardest and most emotional when they did the fallen officers roll call for 2005. Myself and the other escort officers walked the surviving families down the aisle to the front of the stage where the survivors placed a carnation into the memorial wreath.



Will, Jennifer, and Matt Sampietro listen for the name of their husband/father, Cpl. Jay Sampietro, during the roll call in Washington, D.C.

Almost everyone who attended this National Police Memorial in Washington, D.C., was in some way affected by an officer who lost his/her life in 2005. We all wore name tags that identified us along with a few letters to show our relationship to the fallen officer, such as : CW for co-worker. Many wore pictures of the deceased officers on their shirts. It was amazing to me how many people came up to me during this time and wanted to share their story of their fallen officer—who was their father, brother, husband, son, sister, mother, daughter, fellow officer, etc. Anyone who ever attends this annual event, will never forget it.

As you are aware by now, I was there for my corporal and friend, Jay Sampietro, who was killed in August of last year. I served as Jennifer (Jay's wife) Sampietro's escort. After attending this memorial, you realize how quickly your life can be cut short, and are reminded not to take anything for granted. Now I can see why Jay Sampietro always lived life to the fullest, whether he was on or off duty.

Jay served as an escort officer, at this same National Police Memorial, in 2000, when Missouri State Highway Patrol Sgt. David C. May and Sgt. Robert G. Kimberling were honored at a similar memorial service. (Both officers died in the line of duty in 1999.)



As Sgt. Al Raetz salutes, Jennifer Sampietro places a carnation into the memorial wreath. Matt is standing to her right, and Will is to her left. (His head can be seen between the sign and the railing.)

Family Touched By Love, Respect In D.C.

By Mrs. 394, Cheryl Floyd

It is hard to put into words all the emotions I went through on our recent trip to Washington, D.C., for the National Police Memorial. When we exited the plane, we walked through a line of uniformed officers who were standing at attention. We were met by more officers, who gathered our bags and escorted us to a waiting bus. We had a police escort to our hotel ... It was very emotional watching all the motorcycle police along with others stopping all the traffic. With tears flowing, I was thinking, "Kevin, I hope you are watching from above, along with all the other fallen heroes, because this is all being done for you." The other thought that kept running through my mind was, "This shouldn't be happening. I shouldn't have to be here." But, reality hit, and I was there, and it was happening.

The seminars were great—talking with other wives who were going through the same emotions, knowing that I wasn't alone, knowing that the other spouses were going through the same everyday ups and downs ... also, knowing that none of us like being called widow or Ms., that even though our husbands are gone we are still their Mrs.. That is one thing no one can ever take from us. I made friends and a bond with other wives that will never be broken. COPS put on an excellent program for the teens. They are to be commended for all their time and the love that was shown to us.

The police officers were great. On nights when I couldn't sleep, I would go down to the lobby and talk with them ... sometimes for hours. They always said the right things. I would walk away feeling much better after talking with them. They were all great.

The candlelight vigil was touching—seeing that thin blue line and all the candles held up high toward our loved ones—our fallen heroes—and the silence that fell among all the families who had lost so much. On the bus ride to the memorial it was silent. When we arrived, we walked through hundreds of officers from all over the U.S. who were standing at attention. It was so quiet it was like the world was standing still. Listening to all



Cheryl Floyd takes time to reflect while looking at her husband's name and picture at the memorial in Washington, D.C.



Thousands of people attended the candlelight vigil.

the names that had been placed on the memorial wall, watching all the spouses, children, parents, etc. who had lost so much placing their flower in the wreath, I knew their hearts were breaking just as much as mine, to hear their loved one's name read aloud.

I would like to thank The MASTERS for helping to pay the expenses of the trip. A special thanks to COPS Inc. for putting on an excellent program, and for the respect and honor shown to all our fallen heroes. Thank you to all the officers who donated their time—also, to all the volunteers. May God bless you all and keep you safe. Last, I would like to thank my es-

cort Tpr. Al Jones. He was always there for Kevin no matter what the situation and now he is always there for us. I am sure Kevin is watching from above and is smiling knowing that "Jones" will always be there for us, doing whatever he can to help ... I appreciate all the calls he makes to check on us just as he was always there for Kevin. Kevin loved you, Al, and so does his family.

All of you touched my heart with the honor that was shown to the families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while they did their duty of serving and protecting. May God bless you all and keep you safe.